



EXCLUSIVE! THE NEW *INSIDER* COLUMN BY HERA FROM *STAR WARS REBELS!*

STAR WARS[®]

INSIDER

FOR THE
STAR WARS
FAN WHO HAS
EVERYTHING:
OUR ESSENTIAL HOLIDAY
**GIFT
GUIDE!**

LEGACY

Celebrating *Star Wars'* epic run at
Dark Horse Comics!

HOTH COUTURE

Costumes of *The
Empire Strikes Back!*

50

**GREATEST REASONS TO
LOVE THE *STAR WARS*
TRILOGY!**

PLUS:

- REBELS ART
- MARVEL COMICS
- ALL-NEW FICTION

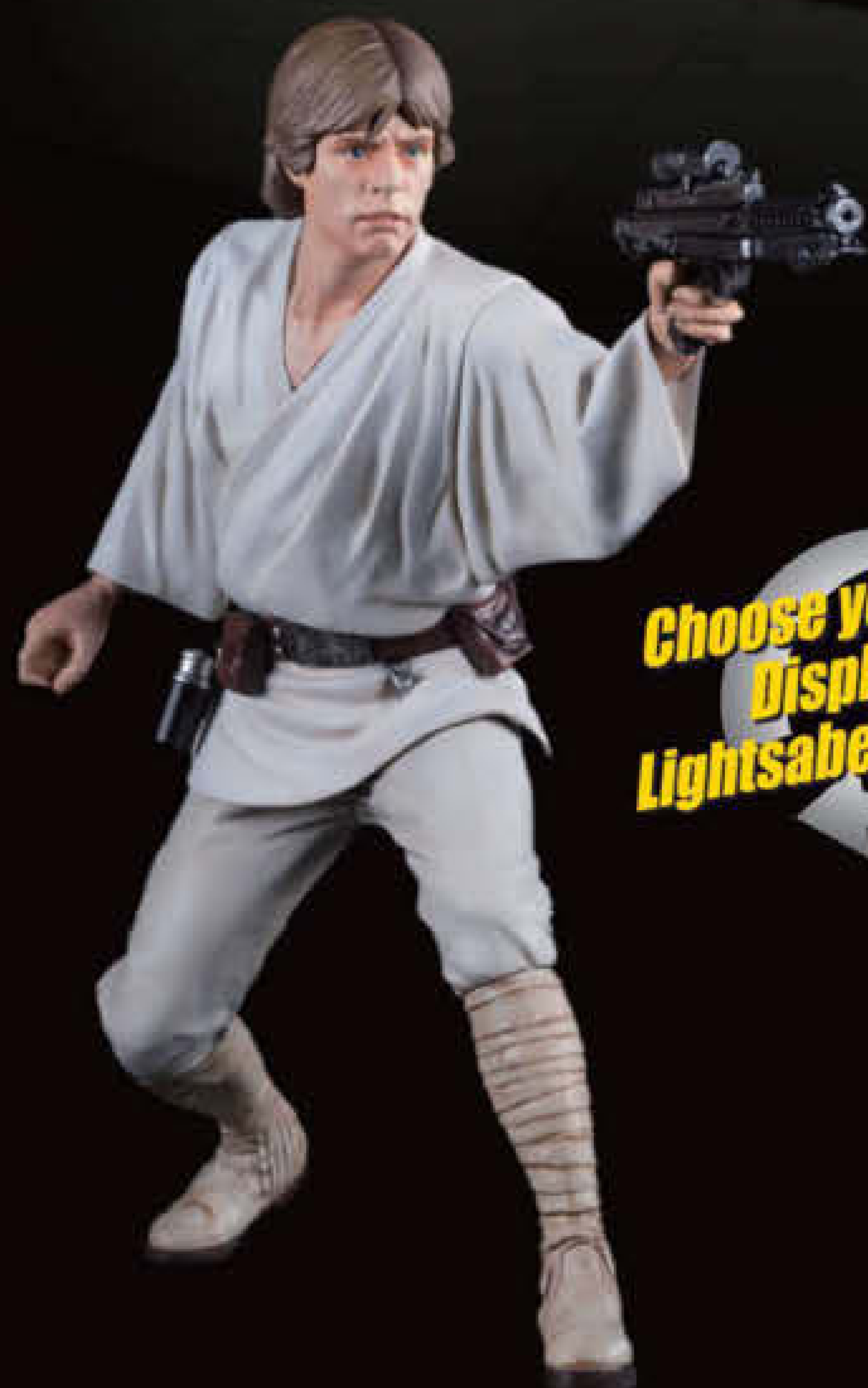
ISSUE #154
USA \$7.99
CAN 9.99
JANUARY 2015
Please display until January 19 2015



STAR WARS™

ARTFX+
COLLECTIBLE TOYS PLUS

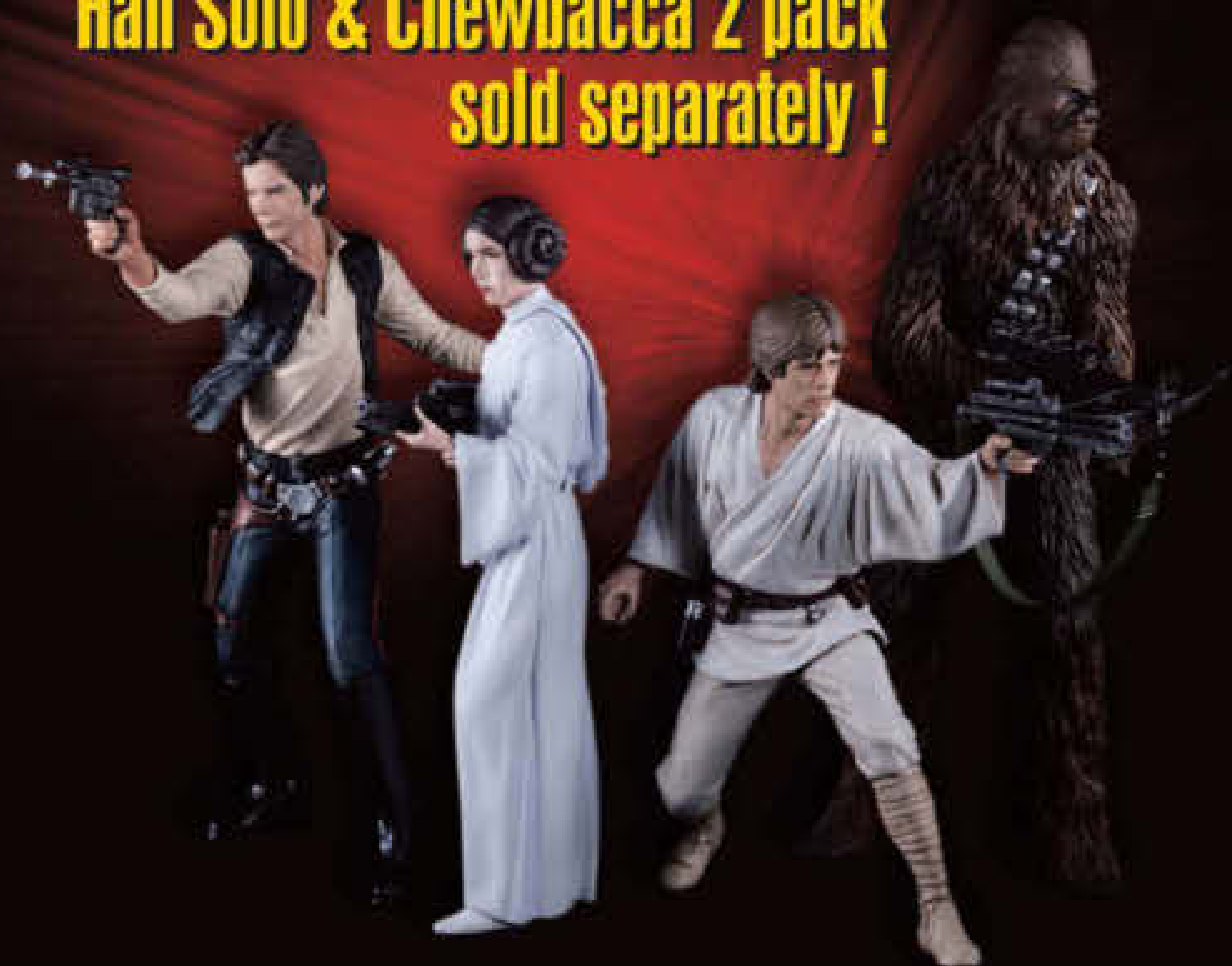
A farm boy and senator thrust into the conflict between the Rebellion and the Empire, Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia Organa embody the purity of spirit and optimism necessary to defeat the evil Emperor and his disciple, Darth Vader. Making their escape from the Death Star, Luke and Leia each hold their weapons at the ready. The burgeoning Jedi wears his simple farmer's clothing and advances in a crouch, his newly acquired lightsaber glowing blue in his outthrust left hand, while the confident Princess Leia stands tall in her regal white Senator's gown, wielding a liberated Stormtrooper blaster with both hands.



Choose your weapon!
Display with
Lightsaber or Blaster



**Han Solo & Chewbacca 2 pack
sold separately!**



**LUKE SKYWALKER™
& PRINCESS LEIA™**
AVAILABLE IN MAY **\$119.99**

CRAFTSMANSHIP
KOTOBUKIYA

<http://www.facebook.com/kotobukiya>

Toys, Figures, Plastic model kits, Statues, Goods, Anime goods and much more...

© & ™ Lucasfilm Ltd.
Prototypes shown; final products may vary.

EDITOR'S WELCOME

CONTACT US

email us:
starwarsinsider@titanemail.com

visit us:
www.titanmagazines.com
www.titanmagazines.co.uk

write to us:
UNITED STATES
Star Wars Insider, Titan Magazines,
2819 Rosehall Lane, Aurora, IL, 60503,
U.S.A.
UNITED KINGDOM
Star Wars Insider, 144 Southwark Street
London SE1 0UP, U.K.

call us:
To subscribe in the U.S. please
call toll free on 1-800-261-6502
Canada: 1-818-487-4575
For U.K. and all other destinations
please call 0844 576 7858 or
+44 (0) 1795 419831

Star Wars Insider is
also available online.
To download, visit:
www.titanmagazines.
com/digital

Find us on
Facebook
www.facebook.com/
StarWarsInsider

twitter
Star Wars Insider @SW_Insider

Visit
www.starwars.com

"Star Wars. A million years in the making—and it's coming to your galaxy this summer!" —Star Wars, original trailer, 1976

Ask the average person in the street what their favorite thing about the original *Star Wars* trilogy is, and you'll most likely get several different answers. Darth Vader, visual effects, and the droids would probably come out on top—but the truth is, there are an awful lot of things vying for attention. As a sequel to our previous feature, "50 Greatest Things about the *Star Wars* Prequels" we asked various folk for their highlights from the original trilogy. I think you can guess the title! Such was the diversity of contributions that we didn't get the same entry twice! In fact, the only similar entries are illustrated by photographs that suggest that, across the world, from England to America, kids were too excited about *Star Wars* to even get dressed before playing with their *Star Wars* toys! Check out entries #12 and #34 for evidence!

Elsewhere in this issue, we welcome aboard a lady who is not only a dedicated fan but has made a huge impact as Hera in *Star Wars Rebels*! Actress Vanessa Marshall has stepped out of the recording booth long enough to start writing a regular column for the *Insider*. This issue, Vanessa showcases her busy *Star Wars* year so far... and this was before *Rebels* had even aired! Also within these pages is a fond look back at Dark Horse Comics wonderful run of *Star Wars* comics that have thrilled, amused, and entertained for the last 23 years.

It's the holiday season—where has 2014 gone!—which means season of goodwill and, if you are really fortunate, maybe some *Star Wars* gifts! We've taken it upon ourselves to select some of the more offbeat *Star Wars* goodies which will surely delight and amuse your nearest and dearest! There's even the opportunity to win a cool Boba Fett skateboard, limited edition records, and a replica of Han Solo's holster!

May the Force be with you... Always.

Jonathan Wilkins,
Editor

STAR WARS

JANUARY 2015

Contact Us: [U.S.] *Star Wars Insider*,
Titan Magazines, 2819 Rosehall Lane, Aurora,
IL, 60503, U.S.A.

Contact Us: [U.K.] *Star Wars Insider*,
144 Southwark Street, London SE1 0UP, U.K.

EDITORIAL

Editor Jonathan Wilkins
Senior Editor Martin Eden
Art Editor Oz Browne
Editorial Assistant Louisa Owen

LUCASFILM

LUCASFILM

Executive Editor J. W. Rinzler
Brand Communications Manager
Pablo Hidalgo
Image Archives Stacey Leong, Matthew
Azeveda, Shahana Alam
Art Director Troy Alders
Bantha Tracks Mary Franklin
Director of Publishing Carol Roeder

CONTRIBUTORS

Amy Ratcliffe, Brandon Alinger
Daniel Wallace, Vanessa Marshall,
Michael Kogge, Mark Newbold,
James Burns, Neil Edwards, Chris Scalf,
Louisa Owen, Danae Quek, Wilfried
Tshikana Ekutshu

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Erich Schoeneweiss at Random House,
Tracy Cannobbio and
Chris Argyropoulos at Lucasfilm



TITAN MAGAZINES

Production Manager Obi Onuora
Production Supervisor Maria Pearson
& Jackie Flook
Production Assistant Peter James
Art Director Oz Browne
Studio Manager Emma Smith
Circulation Steve Tothill
Subscriptions Executive Ben Alvarez Turner
Marketing Manager Ricky Claydon
Marketing Officer Lucy Ripper
Advertising Manager Michelle Fairlamb
Advertising Assistant Sophie Pemberton
U.S. Advertising Manager Jeni Smith
Publishing Manager Darryl Tothill
Publishing Director Chris Teather
Operations Director Leigh Baulch
Executive Director Vivian Cheung
Publisher Nick Landau

DISTRIBUTION

US Newsstand: Total Publisher Services, Inc.
John Dziewiatkowski, 630-851-7683
US Distribution: Source Interlink, Curtis
Circulation Company
UK Newsstand: Comag, 01895 444 055
US/UK Direct Sales Market: Diamond
Comic Distributors

SUBSCRIPTIONS

US subscriptions: 1-800-999-9718,
email: customerservice@
magazinefulfillmentservices.com
UK subscriptions: 0844 322 1280
email: swmag@servicehelpline.co.uk

For more info on advertising contact
adinfo@titanemail.com

STAR WARS INSIDER JANUARY 2015
(USPS 003-027) (ISSN 1041-5122)

Star Wars Insider is published eight times per year (January/
February, March, April, May/June, July, August/September,
October, November/December) by Titan Magazines, a division of
Titan Publishing Group Limited, 144 Southwark Street, London SE1
0UP. Contents © 2014 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM. All Rights Reserved.
Titan Authorized User: TMN 12890.

PUBLISHER'S U.S. AGENT
2819 Rosehall Lane, Aurora, IL 60503. Periodicals
Postage Paid at Aurora IL and at additional
mailing offices.

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to Star Wars Insider,
PO Box 18479, Anaheim, CA 92817-8479
U.S. subscriptions:
\$49.99 per year; Canada \$59.99
and U.K. \$27.99.
Printed in the US by Browns.

© 2015 Lucasfilm Ltd. and TM All Rights Reserved.
Used Under Authorization.



DOCKING BAY

THIS ISSUE.....

"I'M LUKE SKYWALKER. I'M HERE TO RESCUE YOU." —LUKE SKYWALKER, *STAR WARS: EPISODE IV*



24



26



32



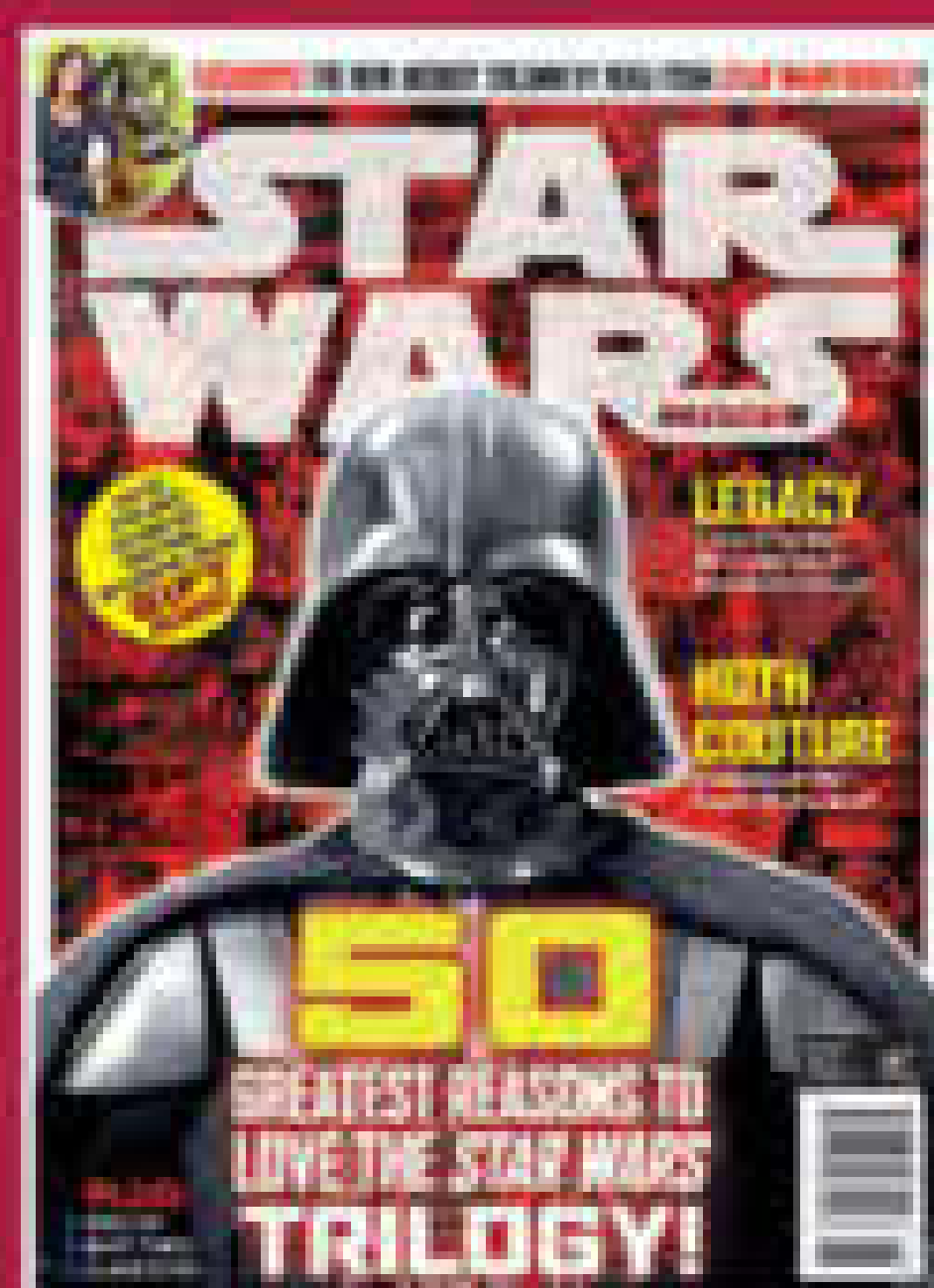
Subscribe today and get an exclusive subscriber cover with every issue—not available in stores! Plus, in this month's issue, get a free action figure and save up to 30% off the usual price.

This issue of *Star Wars Insider* is also available with an exclusive cover image that is available only at selected comic stores!

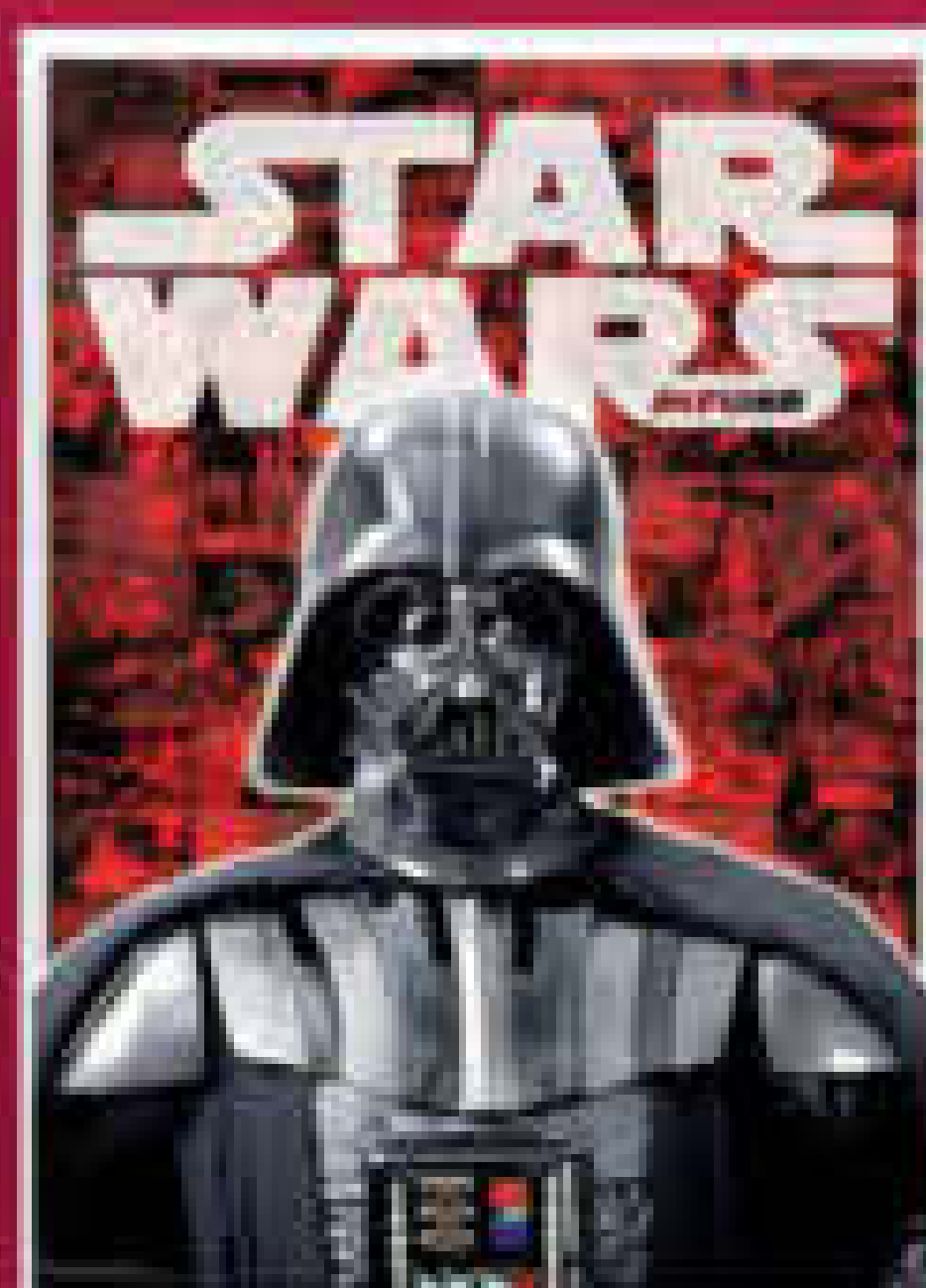
Visit: titanmagazines.com/Insider for more information.

U.S. GET EIGHT ISSUES, SAVING 30%, FOR JUST \$44.99!

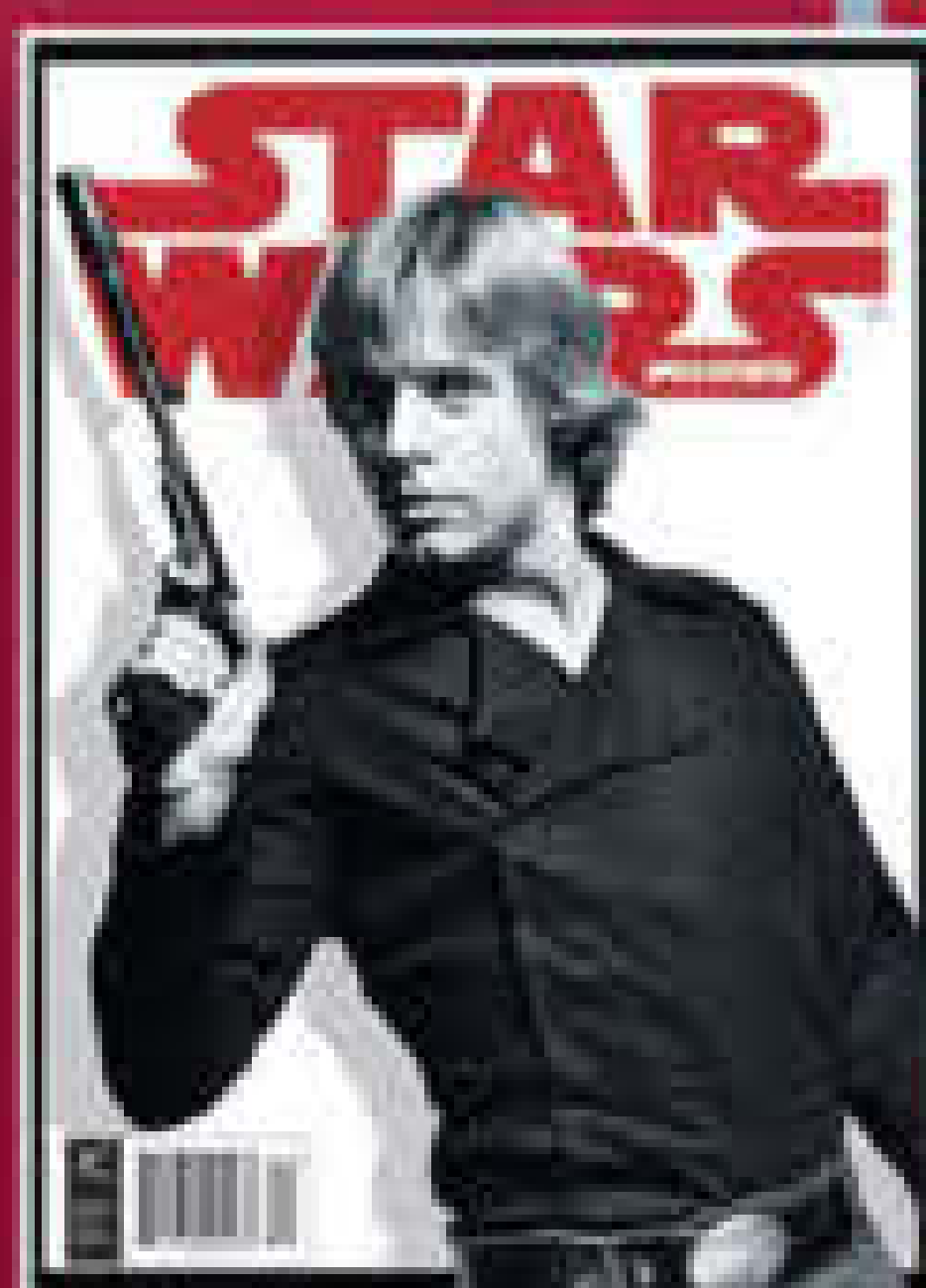
U.K. GET EIGHT ISSUES, SAVING 20%, FOR JUST £27.95!



NEWSSTAND EDITION



SUBSCRIBER'S COVER



COMIC STORE EXCLUSIVE

PAGE 12 TOP 50!

Insider presents the
50 greatest moments
from the original *Star Wars*
trilogy!

FEATURES

26 GIFT GUIDE

Amazing *Star Wars* gifts for the fan who has everything!

32 ART OF *REBELS*

Concept artist Chris Glenn discusses his work on the show!

38 COSTUMES

The first of a two-part look at the costumes of Episode V!

42 DARK HORSE

A tribute to the company that brought us 23 years of *Star Wars* comics.

50 ALL-NEW FICTION

Alexander Freed writes an fantastic new tale, with art by Chris Scalf!

DEPARTMENTS

06 LAUNCH PAD

Exclusive news and fun stuff from the *Star Wars* galaxy!

24 VANESSA'S VIEW

Hera, AKA Vanessa Marshall from *Star Wars Rebels*, writes for *Insider*!

48 MY *STAR WARS*

Artist Dave Dorman on his love of the *Star Wars* saga!

57 CLASSIC MOMENT

Obi-Wan Kenobi leaps into action to protect Luke!

80 RED FIVE

Five funny characters as seen—and drawn—by Spencer Brinkerhoff III!

BLASTER

60 BOOKS

Create a paper Sith Lord with *Star Wars Build Darth Vader*.

62 COMICS

Star Wars Rebels' Kanan gets a backstory in an all-new comic!



66 INCOMING

LEGO's *Slave I* leads the list of essential collectibles!

72 BOUNTY HUNTERS

The fans who have met the stars of *Star Wars* share their experiences!

74 BANTHA TRACKS

Insider celebrates the saga's most dedicated fans!



LAUNCH PAD

ALL THE COOL NEWS FROM THE *STAR WARS* UNIVERSE

STAR WARS REBELS

TO STRIKE BACK WITH
A SECOND SEASON
AND ALL-NEW COMIC
BOOK ADVENTURES!

Star Wars *Rebels* had not even graced our television screens when Gary Marsh, worldwide president and creative officer of Disney Channels, announced that a second season was in production. Marsh had no doubts about the quality of the show: "The global expectation for this series could not have been higher... and the team at Lucasfilm has delivered something that has surpassed even that incredibly high bar." With critical and audience reactions being so positive, it's a welcome announcement indeed!

Star Wars Rebels (Season One) executive producer Greg Weisman is at the helm of a new comic that delves into the past of rogue Jedi Kanan Jarrus.

Star Wars: Kanan the Last Padawan will look at how Kanan trained to become a Jedi and, in the words of Weisman, "We'll see him train specifically *not* to be a Jedi anymore." In an interview with Marvel Comics, Weisman says the tale will be darker than *Rebels*; "The tone I'm always going for is that of Episodes IV and V." The comic series is due to launch in April 2015.

CHECK OUT REBELS RECON!

Don't forget to look out for exclusive *Star Wars Rebels* content at www.starwars.com/tv-shows/star-wars-rebels!



DON'T MISS TWO EXCITING
NEW EPISODES COMING UP
WHEN *STAR WARS REBELS*
RETURNS IN JANUARY!

EPISODE 111: "PATH OF THE JEDI"

Directed by Dave Filoni
Written by Charles Murray

EPISODE 112: "IDIOT'S ARRAY"

Directed by Steward Lee
Written by Kevin Hopps



EMPIRE uncut

FAN FORCE—UNCUT!

In 2010, Casey Pugh created a website where fans of Episode IV could upload their own 15-second takes on scenes from the original film. And so was born an Internet phenomenon called *Star Wars Uncut* that has sparked some of the most creative and downright hilarious takes on the 1977 film.

Star Wars Uncut was met with such a huge response that a sequel swiftly followed: *Empire Uncut* was released in October this year. You can check out both fan films on StarWars.com. The question is: Will there be a *Return of the Uncut*?

In light of the huge response to *Star Wars Uncut*, the time has never been better for the *Star Wars* Fan Film Awards to return.

The awards celebrate those who were inspired by George Lucas's creation to take up a camera themselves. There are seven categories, including Filmmaker Select, Best Animation, Spirit of Fandom, and Best Visual Effects. The winners from each category will receive two tickets to the *Star Wars* Celebration in Anaheim, where their films will have a special screening.

Lucasfilm President Kathleen Kennedy, who will choose the winner for the Filmmaker Select Award, says, "I'm looking forward to witnessing the incredible creativity I know our fans are capable of!" So if you've ever fancied yourself as an auteur, it might be time to pick up that camera. The deadline for entries is January 16, 2015.

WARWICK DAVIS RETURNS!

Thirty years after he first appeared as Wicket, Warwick Davis will be returning to a galaxy far, far away. The British actor announced his casting in Episode VII in typical style, releasing a spoof video on YouTube entitled "Will Warwick Davis Appear in *Star Wars*: Episode VII?" In the video, the actor waits for a call from director JJ Abrams for such a long time, he grows a ridiculous beard, before finally being invited to join the cast at Pinewood Studios.

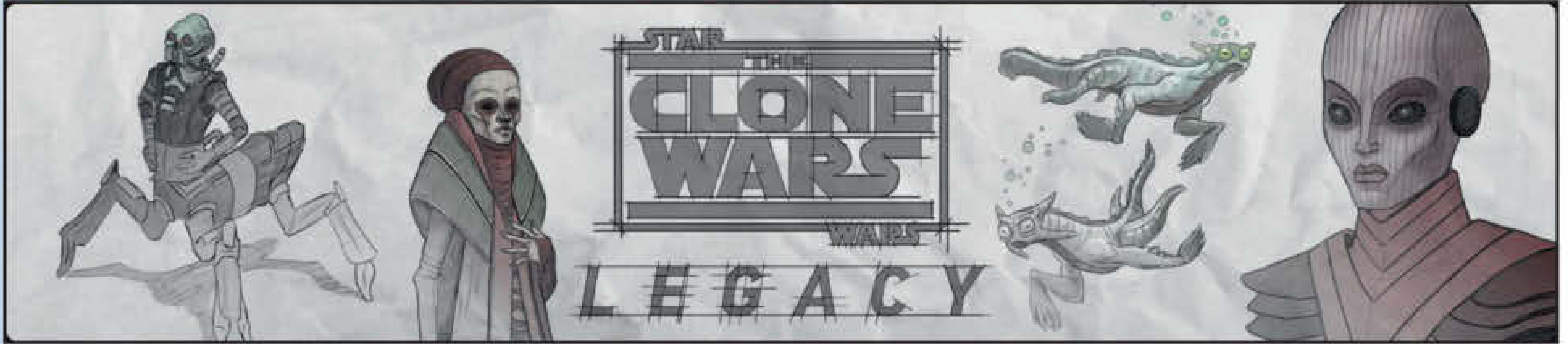
It's still a mystery as to whom Davis will be playing—will he be donning the furry Ewok outfit, or will there be a new part for him? Whatever his role, he's a welcome addition to a film that looks to be a great link between the past and future of *Star Wars*, as the likes of Davis, Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, and Carrie Fisher join forces with up-and-comers Daisy Ridley and John Boyega.



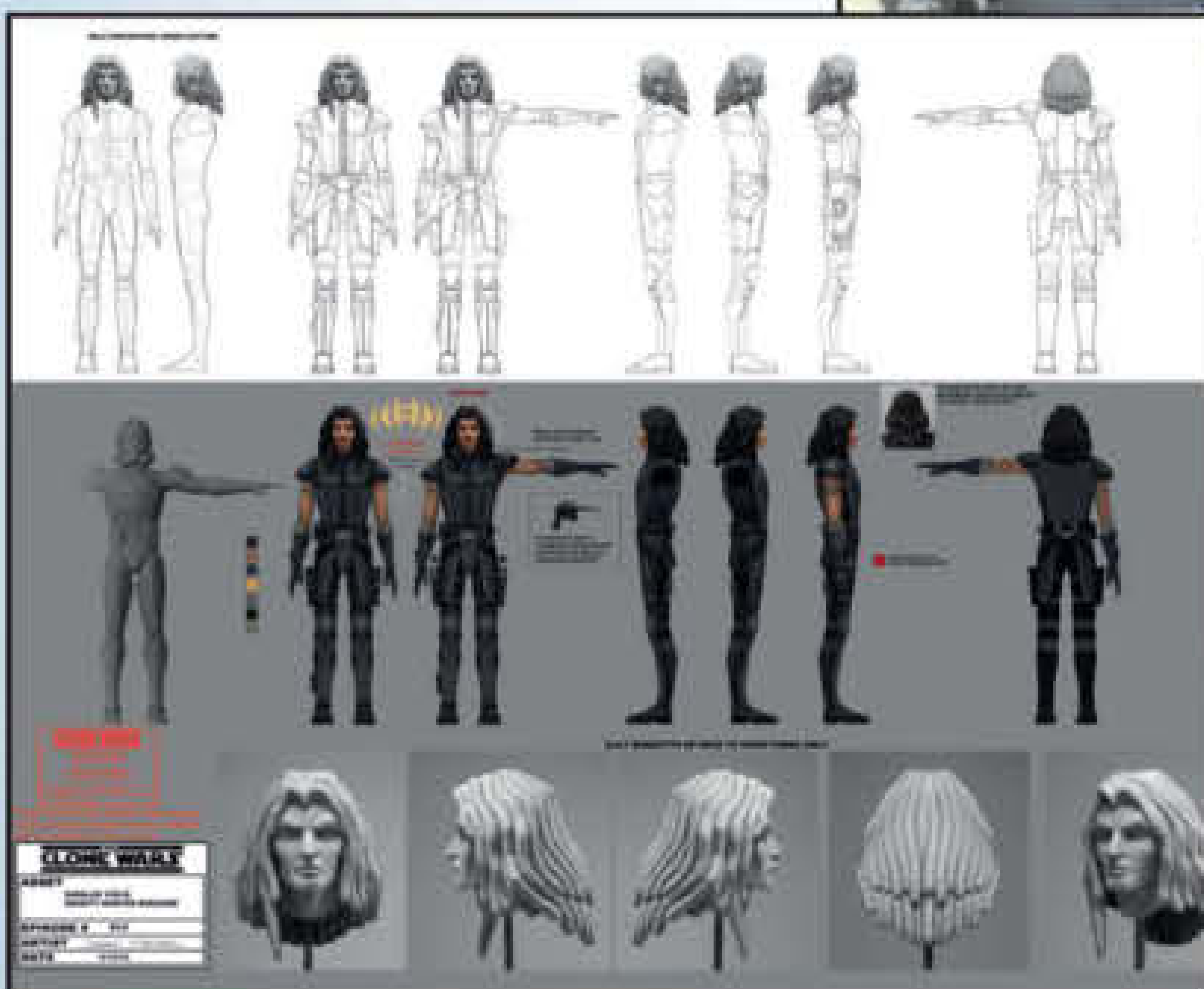
STAR THE FORCE AWAKENS WARS

**STOP
THE PRESS!**
New *Star Wars*
movie title
revealed!

THE CLONE WARS RAGES ONLINE...



Though *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*' TV run has ended, there's exciting bonus content from uncompleted stories to be found at StarWars.com! Design work, commentary, and animatics from uncompleted episodes are there, offering a unique view of the award-winning show. www.starwars.com/tv-shows/the-clone-wars-legacy



...AND ON DISC!

The sixth and final season of *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* was released on DVD and Blu-ray in November—don't miss out on epic story arcs featuring Yoda, the clones, and more!



DIGITAL DESTINIES!

STAR WARS VIDEO GAME UPDATE!



DESTROY ENEMY FORCES

DEFEND THE GALAXY...ON THE WAY TO WORK!

Deploy an arsenal of specialized towers and iconic *Star Wars* characters to defend key locations in the new tower defense mobile game, *Star Wars: Galactic Defense*.

Battles rage across familiar locations from the *Star Wars* universe. Traverse more than 100 different battle scenarios, and experience epic conflicts that span the entire saga. Command up to three *Star Wars* champions like Luke Skywalker, Obi-Wan Kenobi, and Yoda at once, each featuring unique strengths and powerful abilities!

Available now for iPhone, iPad, and Android devices!



STAR WARS: BATTLEFRONT

The next installment in the *Star Wars: Battlefront* game series has been announced for a Holiday 2015 release. EA games executive vice-president Patrick Soderland has said it will be "more rooted in the traditional *Star Wars* Universe."



SKYWALKERS AT HOME

If you've ever wondered what the Skywalkers would be like as an average family, the time has come for you to find out. *The Sims 4* has released a new update, which allows Sims to dress up like *Star Wars* characters.



ATTACK POSITIONS!

Two much-loved games from the mid-1990s—*X-Wing* and *TIE Fighter*—are back! The classic space-combat PC games have been re-released and are available for download at www.gog.com.



I FEEL LIKE THERE'S A GOOD ANDROID PUN IN HERE...

Disney Interactive's free-to-play mobile game *Star Wars: Commander* is now available on Android and Windows devices, as well as its original iOS platform.



EXPAND YOUR EMPIRE!

The new expansion pack for *Star Wars: The Old Republic* is here! *Shadow of Revan* boasts five new levels of story-driven missions, where you must face Revan, former hero of the Jedi Civil War, and his apocalyptic army!

LEGAL NOTICE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Statement of Ownership, Management,
and Circulation

1. Publication Title: *Star Wars Insider*
2. Publication Number: 0003-0027
3. Filing Date: 10-1-14
4. Issue Frequency: Bi-monthly
5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 8
6. Annual Subscription Price: \$49.99
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: 2819 Rosehall Ln. Aurora, IL 60503 Contact Person: John Dziewiatkowski 630-851-7683
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: 2819 Rosehall Ln. Aurora IL 60503
9. Full names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher: Nick Landau Editor: Jonathan Wilkins Managing Editor: Darryl Tothill Address: 144 Southwork St., London England, SE1 OUP
10. Owner: Titan Publishing Group LLC. Nick Landau, Vivian Cheung 144 Southwork St. London, England, SE1 OUP
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities: None.
12. Tax Status Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months, The purpose, function, and non-profit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
13. Publication Title: *Star Wars Insider*
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Jan - Nov/Dec (Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months). Extent and Nature of Circulation: Paid
15. a). Total Number of Copies (Net press run): 51,938 b. (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions: 5,289 (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated: 0 (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Courier Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS: 37,987 (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS: 600 c. Total Paid Distribution: 43,877 d. and e. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: 0 f. Total Distribution: 43,877 g. Copies not Distributed: 18,773 h. Total: 62,650 i. Percent Paid: 100
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Nov/Dec (No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date). Extent and Nature of Circulation: Paid
- 15 a). Total Number of Copies (Net press run): 49,472 b. (1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions: 5,167 (2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated: 0 (3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Courier Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS: 36,403 (4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS: 0 c. Total Paid Distribution: 43,727 d. and e. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: 0 f. Total Distribution: 43,727 g. Copies not Distributed: 18,623 h. Total: 62,350 i. Percent Paid: 100
16. N/A
17. Statement included in: Issue 154
18. Completed by: John Dziewiatkowski, Publisher



C-3PO'S COMMUNICATION STATION!

WELCOME TO *STAR WARS INSIDER*'S LETTERS PAGE! WRITE IN WITH AN ENTERTAINING LETTER, AND, IF WE PRINT IT, WE'LL SEND YOU A FANTASTIC SIGNED *STAR WARS* PHOTO FROM OUR FRIENDS AT OFFICIAL PIX!



Furry friends! Connor the *Star Wars*-mad canine snuggles up to his pet Ewok!



Guarding his (Jedi) master's LEGO *Star Wars* figures!

LUKE SKYWALKIES!

My Daddy and I love your magazine, and I wanted to write to tell you about my first ever *Star Wars* day! I am only 10 months old, but my daddy is a huge *Star Wars* fan, and now so am I! Grandma took daddy to see *Return of the Jedi* at the local cinema when he was three years old, and as a special treat for *Star Wars* day he said I could watch it with him and Mummy, although they didn't share their Wookiee cookies with me!

The film was a lot of fun. I barked at Jabba the Hutt and the rancor (which frightened me a little bit) but my favorites were the Ewoks. I was very happy when they helped the rebels! Thanks to my uncle and aunt, I have even got my own Ewok, which they brought me back all the way from America!

Daddy and I are so excited about the new *Star Wars* film! He says I am not old enough to go and see it at the cinema next year on release day, but when it comes out on DVD we can watch it at home. He says he will show me the rest of the films soon. I like to

relax in Daddy's office because it has lots of *Star Wars* memorabilia, and sometimes when he is working hard I will try and play with his LEGO *Star Wars*.

Thanks for making such a great magazine for us both to read all about *Star Wars*. May the Fur be with you!
—Connor, by email

Thanks for showing us the "bark side" of the Force, Connor! Maybe there should be a special screening of Episode VII for all you Jabba the Mutts out there...

A FANGIRL'S TALE...

This is how I got into *Star Wars*: I was 24 years old and pregnant with my second child in 1977. My then-husband wanted to go see this new movie called *Star Wars*! I went and was expecting a boring night, but, by the time the movie was over, I was hooked!

My fandom really started about four years ago: I looked online for *Star Wars* fan clubs in Oklahoma City and was directed to JediOKC, a costuming and collecting club. They have been together for 14 years now. I dress up as a generic Jedi Knight and Jocasta Nu. JediOKC appears at a lot of charity events and such around Oklahoma City. I am very glad that more girls and women are showing their fangirl side. *Star Wars* is the best movie saga ever! May the Force be with you!

—Letetia Duke, by email

Keep up the great work, Letetia!

AN INSIDER FOR 15 YEARS!

I've never written to a magazine before, but I just wanted to thank you for all the hard

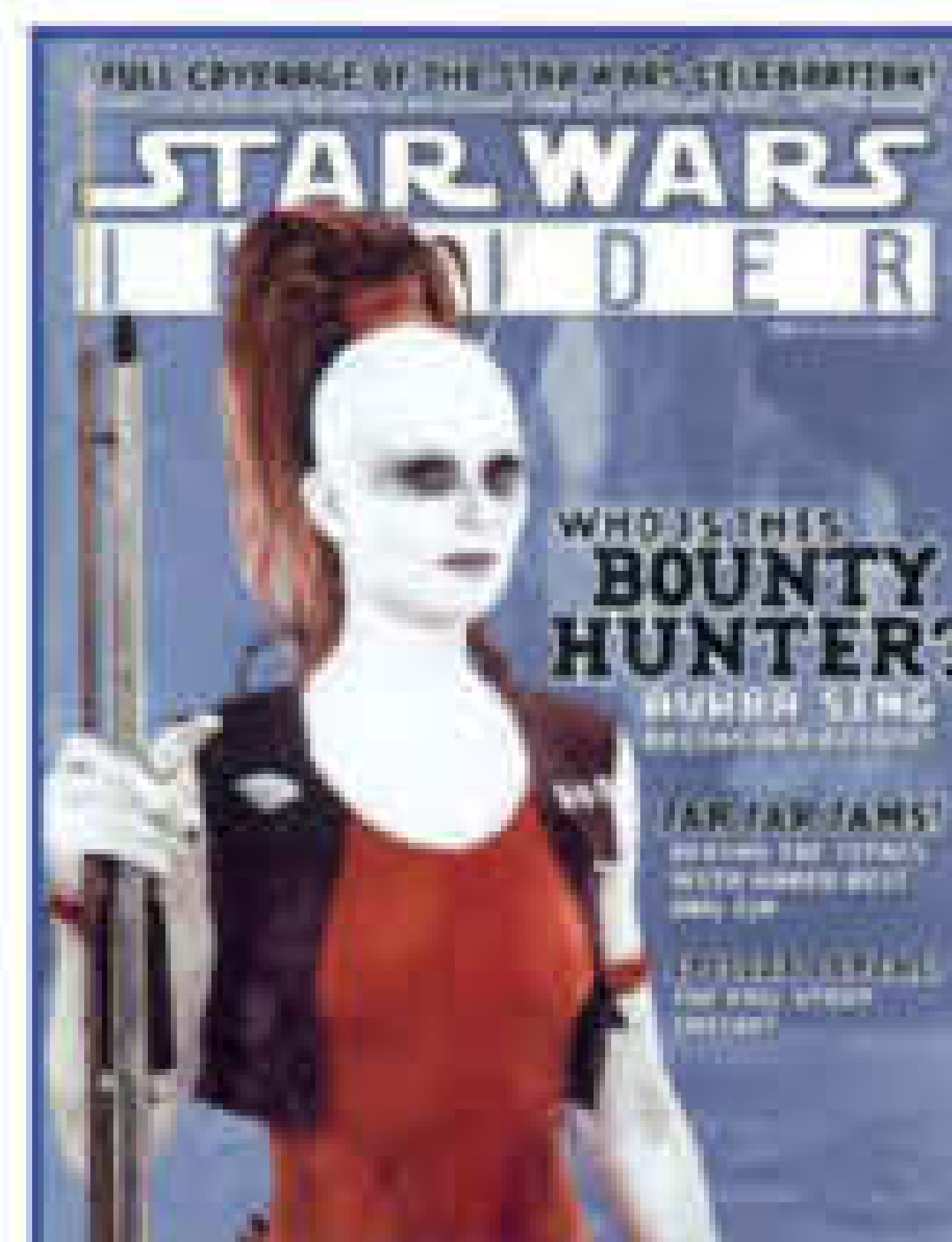
work you've done over the years to make *Insider* so amazing. I love the blend between the original trilogy, prequels, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*, the Expanded Universe (now Legends), *Star Wars Rebels* and Episode VII. With every issue, you make sure not to leave anything out so that every fan has something that they can read and love within the pages.

I started getting *Insider* in 1999, after I wrote to George Lucas with some questions about Episodes II and III. I didn't get a response from him, but I did get my first copy of *Insider* with Aurra Sing on the cover! I was hooked and subscribed immediately. I couldn't wait to get each new issue in my mailbox, and it's still the same today. I took a brief hiatus from *Insider* after *Revenge of the Sith* when I was a poor college student, but as soon as I got a full-time job, I subscribed once more!

Anyway, I just wanted to reach out and say thanks for everything you guys have done: keep inspiring all of us! I hope to see many more years of the Force running strong within the *Insider* family.

—Kiri Mohan, by email

Thanks for the kind words, Kiri! We'll have a word with George about when he might get around to answering your letter!



Kiri's first issue of *Star Wars Insider* from back in 1999!

WE WANT YOUR LETTERS! SEND THEM TO:

USA *Star Wars Insider*, Titan Magazines
2819 Rosehall Lane, Aurora, Illinois,
60503, USA

UK *Star Wars Insider*, 144 Southwark
Street London, SE1 0UP

Email starwarsinsider@titanemail.com



Learn more about
Official Pix at
www.officialpix.com



Home of the World's Largest Selection
of Star Wars Collectibles
from 1977 to Present

Inventory Updated in real time on www.brianstoys.com
Prices & Availability Subject to Change Please Call to Confirm

Brian's Toys
WWW.BRIANSTOYS.COM

We strive to provide the most reliable customer service in the industry!

Speedy Delivery • Orders Placed by
10am Central Standard Time Are Shipped
the Same Business Day!!!

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed (14 Day Return Policy)
E-mail confirmation with every order

Black Series



Black Series 6" Wave 6 (Set of 4)
C-8/9 Pre-Order \$79.99

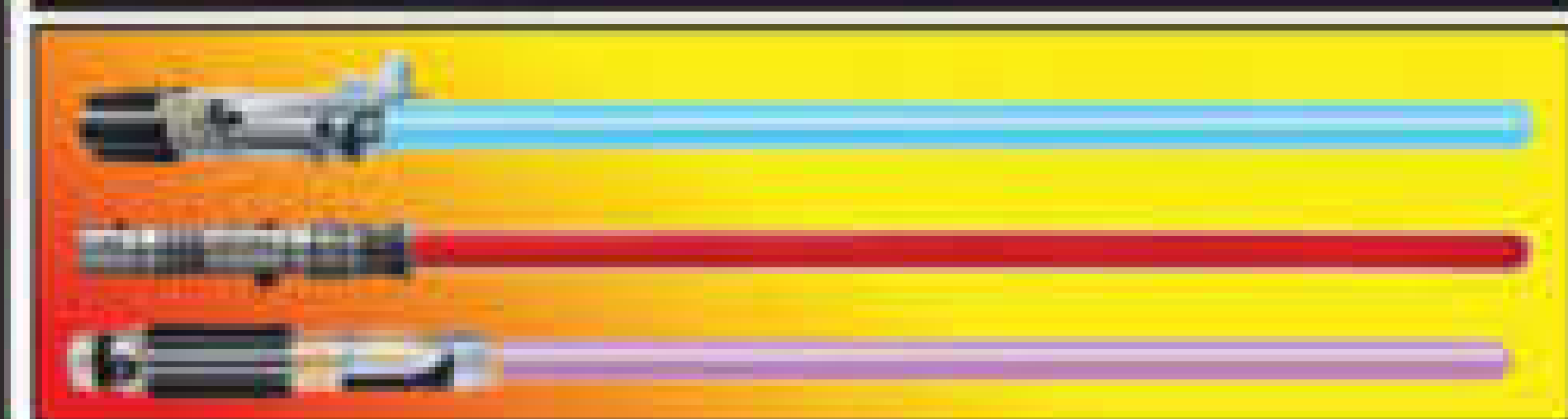


Black Series 6" Wave 5 (Set of 4)
C-8/9 Pre-Order \$79.99



Black Series 6" Deluxe
Wave 1 (Set of 2) Jabba the Hutt
Speeder Bike with Scout Trooper
C-8/9 \$84.99

Hasbro FX Lightsabers



Anakin Skywalker \$127.99
Darth Maul \$159.99
Mace Windu \$179.99

Hasbro FX Lightsabers (Removable Blades)



Anakin Skywalker \$149.99
Darth Maul \$149.99
Darth Vader \$199.99
Obi-Wan Kenobi \$149.99

eFX Collectibles



STORMTROOPER
(EPISODE IV)
PCR HELMET
\$179.99

SCOUT
TROOPER
LE HELMET
Pre-Order
\$698.99

Licensed Star Wars Artwork



CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR A COMPLETE
SELECTION OF STAR WARS ARTWORK

Gentle Giant



12" Jumbo Vintage

AT-AT Driver \$79.99
Biker Scout (Pre-Order) \$79.99
Han Solo (Bespin) (Pre-Order) \$79.99
Han Solo (Hoth) \$79.99
Leia (Hoth Outfit) (Pre-Order) \$79.99
Luke Skywalker (Bespin Outfit) (Pre-Order) \$79.99
Luke Skywalker (Hoth Outfit) \$79.99
Snowtrooper \$84.99
TIE Fighter Pilot (Pre-Order) \$79.99
Wicket (Pre-Order) \$79.99



Boba Fett (Holiday Special)
Animated Maquette \$128.99
Darth Malak Statue \$134.99
Padme Amidala (Illum)
Statue \$248.99



Darth
Malgus
Mini Bust
\$79.99



Death
Trooper
Mini Bust
GG Web Exclusive
\$69.99

Jocasta NuTM
Chief Librarian
Exclusive Action Figure!

As Seen in

STAR WARS
ATTACK OF THE CLONES

\$29.99
NOW IN
STOCK!

TAKE HOME A PART OF HISTORY
WITH THIS JOCASTA NU FIGURE!



Exclusively Available at

Brian's Toys
WWW.BRIANSTOYS.COM

Vintage Star Wars

Hundreds of Vintage AFA Items on our Website!



Jawa
20 Back-H
AFA 85
\$1,599.99



SW Sand
People
21 Back-A
AFA 75
\$299.99



ROTJ TIE
Fighter Pilot
65 Back-A
AFA 80
\$249.99



Tri-Logo Klaatu
(Miscarded
Skiff Outfit)
AFA 80
\$399.99

Sideshow Collectibles



12" Arc Trooper:
Fives Phase II Armor \$149.99
Echo Phase II Armor \$149.99
12" Cad Bane (Denal Disguise) \$149.99
12" Clone Trooper Deluxe: Shiny \$139.99
12" Clone Trooper Deluxe: Veteran \$139.99
12" Bomb Squad Clone Trooper: Ordnance Specialist
Pre-Order \$149.99
12" Commander Luke Skywalker (Hoth)
Pre-Order \$199.99
12" Jango Fett C-8/9 Pre-Order \$219.99
12" R2-D2 (Deluxe) \$149.99
12" Tauntaun (Deluxe) Pre-Order \$349.99
12" Wolfpack Clone Trooper:
104th Battalion Pre-Order \$139.99
Premium Format Commandy Cody \$379.99
Premium Format Savage Opress Pre-Order \$399.99

Brian's Toys

W730 HWY 35 P.O. Box 95 Fountain City, WI 54629

Phone: (608) 687-7572

Fax: (608) 687-7573 email: sales@brianstoys.com

www.brianstoys.com

WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

Prices and availability are subject to change.

Please call, fax, or e-mail to confirm prices and availability.



Sell Your Toys!

Find tools for selling your
collection at

www.brianstoys.com/sellyourtoys
For more info e-mail
buying@brianstoys.com

PLEASE CALL 608-687-7572 TO PLACE AN ORDER PRICES AND AVAILABILITY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CALL, FAX, OR E-MAIL TO CONFIRM PRICES AND AVAILABILITY.

50 GREATEST REASONS TO LOVE THE ORIGINAL TRILOGY

ONLY ONE YEAR TO GO UNTIL THE RELEASE OF EPISODE VII—SO IT'S THE PERFECT TIME TO TAKE A LOOK BACK AT THE ORIGINAL TRILOGY. WE ASKED THE GREAT AND THE GOOD WHAT THEY LOVE BEST ABOUT THE ORIGINAL *STAR WARS* TRILOGY. COMPILED BY MARK NEWBOLD



1. FUEL FOR IMAGINATION!

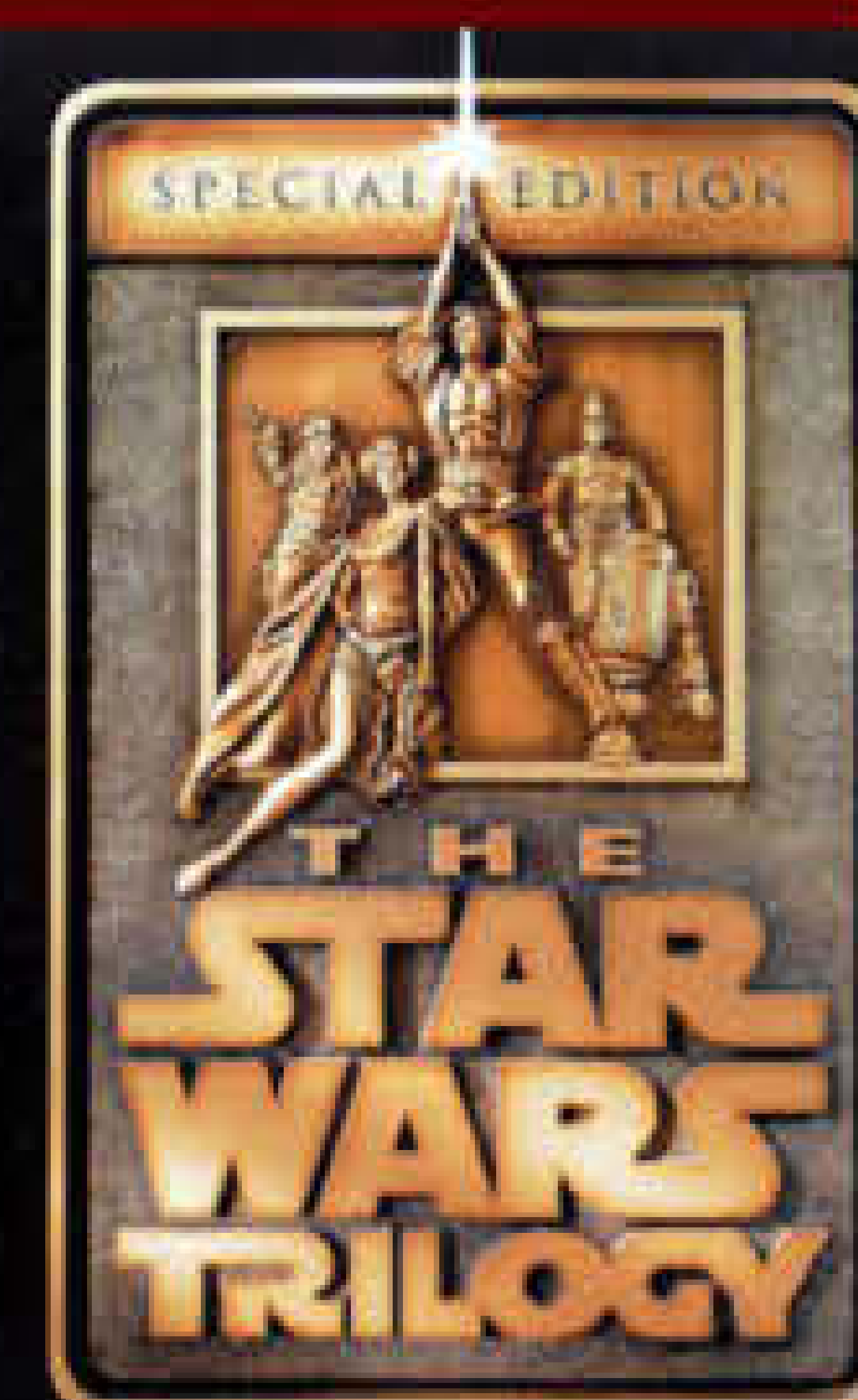
I only have vague memories of seeing the first two *Star Wars* movies in the theater. I know I saw them because *Star Wars* made up every hour of my playtime, my school notepad doodling, and my imagination. My favorite thing about the original trilogy is the toys. My mom searched high and low for them. My brother and I dug trenches in the backyard to re-create the battle of Hoth. We even filled in some of those trenches with water to submerge our X-wing into the Dagobah swamp! Those toys gave me the tools to make my own *Star Wars*.—Spencer Brinkerhoff III, *Star Wars* artist

2. EPISODE V

For me, the greatest thing about the original trilogy is the groundbreaking special effects in *The Empire Strikes Back*.—Danny Wagner, special effects makeup, sculpting, and painting, the prequel trilogy.

3. HAPPY MEMORIES

I first saw *Star Wars* in 1977 at the Coronet Theater in San Francisco during the original release. I returned to the Coronet 20 years later to see the first screening of *Star Wars: Episode IV Special Edition*. On that very day, I was hired by LucasArts.—Leland Y. Chee, *Star Wars* Story Group member



THREE REASONS WHY THEY BUILD MOVIE THEATRES.

STAR WARS

EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

RETURN OF THE JEDI

JOIN THE CELEBRATION.



4. EWOKS

I'm a big fan of the Ewoks. A lot of people look at how cute they are and think, *teddy bear*, but they're missing the point. The Ewoks showed their true, inner savage nature in the forest battle, where they take on a battalion of stormtroopers with rocks and logs.—Troy Denning, *Star Wars Crucible* author

5. YODA VS. R2-D2

In *The Empire Strikes Back*, there's a moment between Yoda and R2-D2 that always cracks me up with laughter. The Jedi Master and the droid have a tug of war over a flashlight. Yoda uses his cane as a weapon, bashing R2 while screaming, "Mine! Mine! Mine!" When Yoda gets what he wants, he gives the little droid one more whack with the stick and then laughs. It's so cheeky and funny; it gets me every time.—Darren Hayes, singer/songwriter





6. WONDERING...

I loved all the speculation between the original releases of the films. After *Star Wars*, we knew Darth Vader had survived and wondered where he would make his evil return. What a revelation it was to discover, upon its release, that *The Empire Strikes Back* was not "*Star Wars II*" but actually Episode V. This further fueled speculation, as we now wondered about the mysterious chapters I-III. The years post-*Empire* were filled with more debate: Was Vader lying to Luke? Who is "The Other?" Will Han survive? Predictions, sometimes wild, were being made until *Return of the Jedi* opened and the saga was complete... For then, at least. Similar thrills were had during the prequel era and now, the ride continues as we look forward to Episode VII. So while "Always in motion the future is," I am happy, in this case, to see history repeat itself. —Jimmy Mac, Rebel Force Radio host



7 "ARTOO-DETOO! IT IS YOU! IT IS YOU!"

I love the bit when C-3PO and R2-D2 meet up again in the Jawas' droid slave ship. I really like the sad, silver guy with the robot-Russian voice. —Peter Serafinowicz, the voice of Darth Maul, *The Phantom Menace*



8. WHEN LIGHTSABERS CLASH!

One favorite thing? "But that's impossible!" I'm giving you two. My favorite line is, "You rebel scum." It sounds silly, but I use that whenever I can. My favorite moment is in *Return of the Jedi* when Vader learns about Luke's twin sister. Luke's anger fuels him and he springs from the shadows as the music soars and the vibrant red and green lightsaber blades clash. It ends with Luke telling the Emperor that he failed, "I am a Jedi, like my father before me." Hands down, it's the best moment in all six movies. I can't wait to see Luke again in Episode VII—Erich Schoeneweiss, Editor at Del Rey books



9. GOING BACK AGAIN AND AGAIN

There are so many—too many—things to love from the original trilogy that I'd find it nigh on impossible to choose just one, but there is one aspect of those life-changing films that has remained a constant over the years. Their re-watchability. Every time I watch them, I take something unique away from the experience. Sure, there are other great films, other classic movies, other major motion picture events which hijack the zeitgeist and—for a brief time—become "as big as *Star Wars*." But when the dust settles and the smoke has cleared, there's always only one saga that's left standing, and that's *Star Wars*.

And the best thing? The next time I watch an episode from the original trilogy, I know it'll spark off another thought. It's the gift that keeps on giving. —Mark Newbold, *Star Wars Insider* contributor

10. BOSSK

One of my favorite things about the *Star Wars* movies is the bounty hunter Bossk from *The Empire Strikes Back*. Other fans can keep Boba Fett; I always thought Bossk looked, well, like a boss. *Robot Chicken Star Wars* increased my appreciation for the odd, yellow-clad bounty hunter by making him a lover of etiquette. As the other bounty hunters are rushing out to find Han and the *Millennium Falcon*, Bossk—who has taken off his shoes—says, "Manners are their own reward, gentlemen!" Of course, when I was a kid I had the Bossk figure—it's still one of my all-time favorites. —Ian Doescher, *William Shakespeare's Star Wars* author



11. BLASTERS!

I like how characters in the prequel trilogy handle blasters and lightsabers with ease. However, there's a certain innocence to the original trilogy in how weapons are handled. The handheld weapons seem to almost overwhelm the characters holding them at times. For example, the

lightsabers were directed to feel heavy, and were wielded with two hands like broadswords. And when the characters fire their blasters, you can see them squint and react to the loud blanks that were fired on set. Compare Han Solo firing on Endor to Natalie Portman firing up at Count Dooku's ship on Geonosis: Their expressions couldn't be more different.

The same is true of how Luke handles his lightsaber in the original trilogy compared with Anakin's seamless lightsaber choreography in the prequels. I guess the original trilogy takes place during a time period that's simply less refined... or should I say less civilized? —David Collins, the voice of Han Solo, *Star Wars: Commander*



12. THE ULTIMATE BOUNTY

The original trilogy came out well before digital downloads, Blu-ray, DVD, or even VHS were commonplace. So to a young boy who didn't have the luxury of being able to see the movies over and over again, my greatest *Star Wars* memories were the adventures I'd create (or re-create) on paper or through the toys.

The greatest achievement from that era? Acquiring the legendary 12" Boba Fett action figure on my seventh birthday! Not only was Boba Fett the coolest of them all, but he was the king of accessories! In addition to his nine points of articulation, this bounty hunter came with a rifle, belt, cape, detachable backpack with removable rocket, moveable range finder, and braided Wookiee scalps! Best of all, Fett had a "sight" in the back of his head that you could look through to see his doomed targets!

Coming from a modest background, I never acquired any of the other large-scale figures as a kid. But let's face it, when you get a figure this cool, one is all you need! —Matt Busch, *Star Wars* artist



13. A CINEMATIC EXPERIENCE

At the time of the first release of *The Empire Strikes Back* I was working in Birmingham on a soap opera called *Crossroads*. A hefty work schedule prevented me from getting to London for the cast and crew screening, and the premiere. Imagine my delight when I received an invitation a few days after the London premiere to be part of the opening ceremony, featuring *Empire*, for the brand new Odeon Cinema in Birmingham. It had the latest projection and an amazing Dolby sound system. From the moment when the rolling opening credits were followed by the Imperial Star Destroyer looming menacingly over our heads, I was hooked. I was so enthralled that it was at least half a minute before I realized that my bit with Wedge, wrapping the cable round the AT-AT, had been and gone... And my voice had been dubbed! —Ian Liston, Wes Janson, *The Empire Strikes Back*



14. SALACIOUS MEMORIES

When we were filming the Jabba's palace scenes I was a young man, and like most young men at the time I had a very strong attraction to Carrie Fisher in her metal bikini! Unlike most young men, I got to be very close to her for hours at a time. In between takes my character, Salacious B. Crumb, used to pretend he was Gomez Addams and Carrie was Morticia from the TV series *The Addams Family*. He would start at her ankle, and slowly kiss his way up her calf saying, "Oh, Cara Mia! I am defenceless against your beauty." Then they would call, "Turn over," and we would have to go to work. She was always amused by Salacious's antics, but I couldn't help but feel if I had tried anything like that myself I would have been forcibly removed from the production. As we learned doing *The Muppets*: Puppets can get away with murder! —Tim Rose, Salacious B. Crumb puppeteer, *Return of the Jedi*

15. INSIDE THE *FALCON*

One favorite moment in *Star Wars*—there is no episode number on the original *Star Wars*, okay?—was Luke sparring with the training remote aboard the *Falcon*. Why's that? Look at the set—it's beautiful. Plus we get to examine a lightsaber in use. Han is hanging out being a skeptic. Obi-Wan is pouring on the fatherly mysticism. And to top it all off Chewie and R2 are playing a holographic chess match with little animated monsters! Just the absolute best mix of environment, characters, and effects.—**Howie Weed**, Industrial Light & Magic artist



16. RULER OF THE GALAXY!

I still wonder what happened to my *Star Wars* ruler! I must have been given it when I was eight or nine years old, and I used it for maybe three years before it vanished. It was blue, with the *Star Wars* logo on the front along with "May the Force be with you." There were images of running stormtroopers on the back firing their blasters. I used it so much that the red blaster-fire faded, and the edges became ragged and dented. I loved that thing. Maybe it still exists somewhere, buried in landfill or crushed up in the bottom of a box in the attic of a house I lived in years ago.—**Tim Lebbon**, *Dawn of the Jedi: Into the Void* author



17. YUMMY!

Salacious B. Crumb chewing on C-3PO's eye! —**Nick Gillard**, stunt coordinator, the prequel trilogy

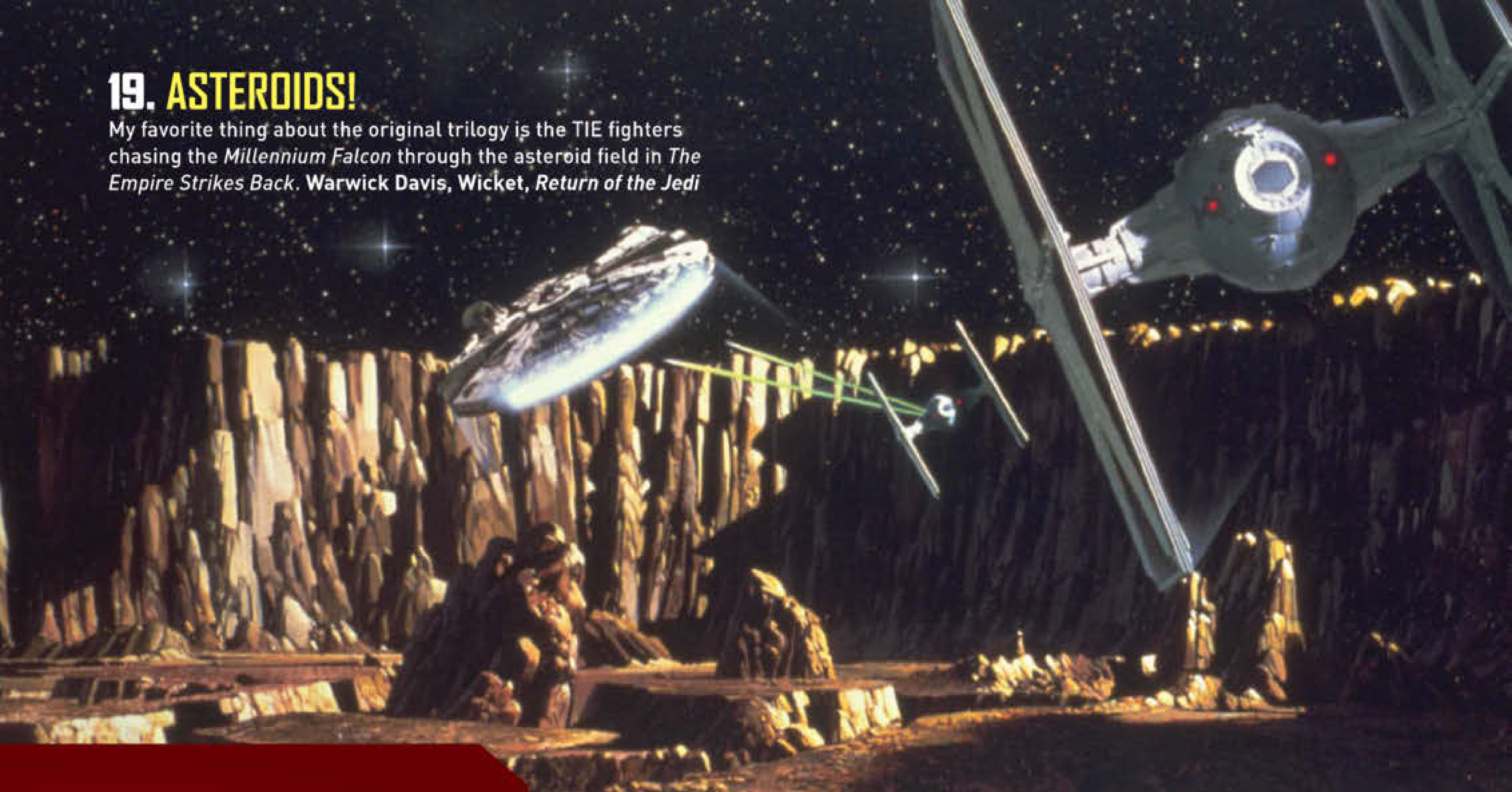
18. COOL HAN!

My favorite thing from *Star Wars*: Han Solo's swagger!—**Phil LaMarr**, Kit Fisto, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*



19. ASTEROIDS!

My favorite thing about the original trilogy is the TIE fighters chasing the *Millennium Falcon* through the asteroid field in *The Empire Strikes Back*. Warwick Davis, Wicket, *Return of the Jedi*



20. RAIDERS OF THE LOST JEDI

On the opening night for *Return of the Jedi*, my Dad had arranged it so we could skip the massive line and pick whatever seat I wanted for the first screening. I loved the film, but the night was young. As soon as the movie was over, we had to rush off to a gig my Dad had drawing caricatures for the 1983 NFL Champions: Los Angeles Raiders. I met legendary football players like Marcus Allen, Howie Long, and Jim Plunkett; but I didn't talk touchdowns. I was talking Ewoks, speeder bikes, and Jabba the Hutt! Most of the players just smiled and politely nodded, probably confused as to why this kid was rattling on about *Star Wars* and not the Super Bowl. Jim Plunkett, however, was really nice and seemed just as excited to see *Jedi* with his kids. After meeting the Raiders, we ended the evening by catching the late showing of *Return of the Jedi* for the perfect cherry on top of one of my favorite days ever! —Randy Martinez, *Star Wars* artist

21. FIRST TIME

You can't replicate that feeling of seeing the first *Star Wars* for the first time back in 1977. And that film is different from the other two—it's more like *American Graffiti* in its giddiness. It's the most light-hearted but still profound, with Obi-Wan's transfiguration and Luke's initiation into the ways of the Force. You can't beat the now-legendary opening shot, the X-wings locking their S-foils in attack position, and the POV shot of the X-wing diving into the Death Star trench! On a more personal note, having George Lucas show me around his house, which from 1973-1977 was Lucasfilm HQ, pointing out what was in each room during that earlier period,



where the typist was, the make-shift sound studio in the basement, editorial in the carriage house—and talking to him for a few hours about that first *Star Wars*—that I'll never forget.—J. W. Rinzler, *The Making of Star Wars* author

22. THE SOUND OF STAR WARS

The *Star Wars* soundtrack was the very first *Star Wars* item I ever owned. Being one of the few pieces of merchandise available upon the film's release, it basically filled the emotional vacuum one felt after leaving the theater. I must have worn the record grooves pretty deep after playing it endlessly on our living room record player—a room, incidentally, which was off-limits to me as an eight-year-old except for the use of the stereo. One track in particular—"Princess Leia's Theme"—resonates the most for me, both nostalgically and for the sheer beauty of Williams' orchestration. Since the piece was used sparingly in the movie, it's become the most potent reminder of my childhood experience of the original *Star Wars*.—Pete Vilmur, *The Star Wars Vault* co-author





23. RED LEADER

As a fan of the original trilogy (dating back to 1977), I have a special fondness for the movie George Lucas calls Episode IV: *A New Hope*, but which I still stubbornly and unabashedly call *Star Wars*! I watch *Star Wars* at least twice a year, and every time I do, one character always tugs my heartstrings like no other. I'm speaking, of course, of poor, doomed Red Leader. He spends the bulk of the Battle of Yavin issuing orders to Luke, Wedge, Biggs, Porkins, and the rest of the Red and Gold Squadrons before taking the first shot at the Death Star's thermal exhaust port. Of course, he misses! If he doesn't, then Luke can't trust the Force, turn off his targeting computer and make that one-in-a-billion shot that sends him to the medal podium. But the hauntingly tragic way actor Drew Henley plays Red Leader's sad, defeated, "Negative, negative, it didn't go in" never fails to put a Chewbacca-sized lump in my throat. Henley's performance of that moment sums up for me the humanity and genuineness that made *Star Wars* so special. Next time you watch that scene, I dare you to look at the hopeless resignation in Red Leader's eyes and not shed a tear. To me, it is the greatest piece of screen acting in the entire series.—**Michael Price**, *LEGO Star Wars Yoda Chronicles* writer



24. LEIA

I played Cordé in Episode II, a highly unexpected event as I pretended to be Princess Leia while still in elementary school! I remember adoring her braided hairdo to the point of envy, loved being disgusted by Jabba the Hutt, and really wanted to cuddle an Ewok! What I love the most about the original trilogy is the countless hours of play that it gave me with my brother and cousins.—**Veronica Segura**, Cordé, *Attack of the Clones*

26. PIGGING OUT!

Having hair driers wedged into my Gamorrean gob to cool down between takes, because it would take too much time and effort to start dismantling the costume!

I didn't like the KY Jelly for drool so much, though!
—**Simon J. Williamson**, Gamorrean guard, *Return of the Jedi*



25. SAGA BUILDING

Salacious B. Crumb mesmerized by Jabba's tail... Oh, and Obi-Wan's Force spirit telling Luke, "I may have kind of stretched the truth... From a certain point of view" If only Force spirit Obi-Wan could have been sitting there with Salacious Crumb... Now that's gold!

The trilogy did something that no other movie sequels did for me: It forever changed my view of movie-making. They were each their own film while still being part of the same story, but they were each their own individual story. They didn't try to re-create moments from the previous instalment. They showed us



that sequels can have their own identity and that started something that *Lord of the Rings*, *Harry Potter* and every recent superhero movie can be very thankful for.—**James Arnold Taylor**, Obi-Wan Kenobi, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*

27. IT'S HUGE!

The pure, ingenuous, eyes-open, un-ironic delight of Episode IV exploding onto the screen, and that opening visual of the Star Destroyer cruising into frame above us... and cruising... and cruising... and... Oh my God! How big exactly is this ship? —**James Kahn**, *Return of the Jedi* novelization author



28. READY TO ROLL

One of my many favorite moments on *A New Hope* was on the first day of filming in Tunisia. We were filming the line-up of droids to be sold to Uncle Owen and Luke. We had not had a lot of time to prep—the film was greenlit in December and here we were in March filming outside of Tozeur. John Stears, the special effects supervisor, had promised us all that he could have R2-D2 radio-controlled and functioning, but John Barry, the production designer, was skeptical and had Les Dilley and I make a lightweight mock-up in fibreglass we could pull along with fishing wire in case. This was used extensively after this first day. R2-D2 was supposed to move forward, in a straight line, and follow C-3PO. On action, John Stears (who built R2-D2) was controlling the radio and R2-D2 wobbled a little, went out of control and fell over. There was silence on the set. Suddenly John rushed in front of the camera and announced loudly,



"It's the bloody taxis!" meaning their radio frequencies were jamming his. This excuse might have worked in London, but we were 45 minutes into the desert outside the sleepy little town of Tozeur, which had one hotel and maybe a few old taxis, camels,

donkeys, and carts mainly as the transport. Out came our fishing wire-led mock-up, and little R2-D2 was pulled along for filming where we could use it without being seen—Roger Christian, *Star Wars* set decorator/production designer



29. LUKE

While Obi-Wan is my favorite character in the saga now, originally it was Luke because I identified with his yearning to break away, leave home, and get involved in the larger world (or galaxy) beyond. That had been my story, too. And nothing still brings that home to me more than John Williams' magnificent music cue, "Binary Sunset." A frustrated Luke walks to a small hill in the gathering dusk and looks up at the setting twin suns of Tatooine. Without a word spoken, you know exactly what he's feeling as the plaintive music builds.—Stephen Sansweet, President and CEO, Rancho Obi-Wan

30. EVASIVE ACTION!

For me, it's all about the Imperial Star Destroyers taking evasive action in *The Empire Strikes Back* as the *Millennium Falcon* dives away from them. First of all, it's an insanely cool special effect, with these huge behemoths trying desperately to roll out of harm's way in the background as the *Falcon* and the TIE fighters engage in a deadly ballet below them. But I also love the klaxons sounding aboard the bridges, and the panic in the officers' voices. You can imagine the dressings-down that must have followed, the paperwork filled out as part of bureaucratic incident reports, and the black marks on lots of service records. All this to chase a dented freighter away from some ice ball? Why, it's enough to drive a veteran of the Imperial Navy crazy!—Jason Fry, *Star Wars Rebels* *Servants of the Empire: Edge of the Galaxy* author



31. JABBA'S BUDDY!

My best memory of being on the Jabba's palace set was when Jabba had to look down at Luke in the rancor pit. Even with everything on maximum, Jabba couldn't quite make the forward lean. So David Tomblin (first AD) asked me if Jabba could be pushed from behind. I said yes, but the internal frame might jump off its springs and the sharp edge might burst the belly air bag.

In all the vast details he had to think about, David remembered visiting when Jabba was being constructed and knew what I was talking about. I also knew I could trust him to help us if anything did go wrong, rather than give us a bad time. He was a great guy and the best compliment any of us ever got was David pushing through us on set, with a backwards jab of his thumb to Jabba, and growling "You've done a good job on that thing."—John Coppinger, Jabba sculptor, *Return of the Jedi*



32 PURE WESTERN

I was 15 when *Star Wars* changed movies... and my life. An integral element of the original trilogy that I did not see at the time was pointed out by my then 80-something-year-old grandmother. By the time she came to visit in the summer of 1977, I had seen *Star Wars* about 10 times. When I told her about it, she said she wanted to see it as well. I was a bit surprised, as I just assumed no one her age would be interested. Boy, was I wrong! When we walked out of the theater, she said not only was it a terrific movie, but it really took her back to her favorite movies from the black-and-white era of Hollywood. When I told her (very politely) that she was nuts—that *Star*



Wars was a modern achievement, she told me I was wrong. She said that obviously, the people who made it were setting a tried-and-true story format in outer space—the old reliable good guys vs. bad

guys Western movie. Of course, as time went by, and I learned more about George Lucas's intentions and inspiration for the original trilogy, I realized my grandmother was completely correct. My grandmother has been gone for many years, but next year when the lights go down and the giant *Star Wars* title slams onto the screen to begin Episode VII, accompanied by the first notes of John Williams' explosive score, she will be sitting by my side, cheering for the good guys.—Tom Kane, *Yoda, Star Wars: The Clone Wars*

33. JEDI MASTER

I hate Yoda's house! It's not suitable for an old man who is in ill health. But I love Yoda from Episode VI! —Tsuneo Sanda, *Star Wars* artist



34. TOY STORIES

There's something incredibly magical about Kenner's—or Palitoy's, if you grew up in the UK—line of *Star Wars* action figures. I can still see the card-back figures lining the walls of my local toy store and can easily recall the potent feeling of excitement when a new batch of figures would arrive—especially when the figures in question were from a film that was yet to be released! Who was the mysterious General Madine? Was Squid Head—clad in familiar-looking brown robes—a Jedi? The crowning glory would be when, at Christmas and for birthdays, a new vehicle would be unpacked, to near hysterical levels of excitement.—Jonathan Wilkins, *Star Wars Insider* editor



35. TOPPS!

There is one thing that stands out to me: Topps' *Star Wars* trading cards. In a time when there were no VCRs to re-watch *Star Wars*, I treasured my walks to the corner market to pick up a pack of cards. I ceremoniously opened each pack and carefully inspected the photos, reliving the movie while chewing the brick of dry gum in each pack. It was my childhood sci-fi ritual and I savored every *Star Wars* morsel from those card packs.—Albin Johnson, 501st Legion founder



36. DARTH VADER

My favorite thing from the original trilogy was seeing Darth Vader appear for the first time on the Blockade Runner in Episode IV.

Star Wars was the very first movie I saw in the theater when I was barely four years old. The first time I watched this ominous villain enter the scene through the blaster smoke with the stormtroopers I was so

scared I literally tried crawling under my seat in the movie theater. But I was as frightened by him as I was fascinated. I remember sneaking peeks between the seats trying to conquer my fear and catch a glimpse of this nightmarish character. I immediately thought he was some kind of demon. Surely there couldn't be a man

in there, could there? As I grew up with these films I knew I had to learn more about him, who was inside that armor, where he came from, why was he so angry and evil? To this day, Darth Vader remains my favorite character to work with as a storyteller and a creator in my *Star Wars* artwork.—Joe Corroney, *Star Wars* artist



37. HAIR DOS AND DONTs

I'd never seen anything like Chewbacca before, but the sounds he made reminded me of how the adults sounded in Charlie Brown cartoons! Princess Leia's comment about getting the walking carpet out of her way tickled my funny bone so much it still makes me laugh to this day!

I was fascinated with Princess Leia's "hair buns." Years later I realized it'd be great to have Leia's "hairdo headphones" for my work in voice-over. I could be Forcefully fashionable in front of the microphone!—Tasia Valenza, Shaak Ti, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*



38. SUPER STAR WARS!

I loved my *Star Wars* Super 8 color/sound 12 minutes of film. I watched it over and over and shared it with friends on my backyard big screen (made from a white sheet) on my home projector. My Don Post masks, which I displayed proudly in my room, which was covered wall to wall with *Star Wars* posters; and hearing Yoda say, "Judge me by my size, do you?" It made me realize that even though I was 4' 2" I could still be a force in the world.—Dan Madsen, *Star Wars* fan club founder and former *Star Wars Insider* publisher



39 FAMILY DRAMA

A favorite scene of mine from the original trilogy has to be when Luke has breakfast with his Uncle and Aunt. It's simple, a dining room conversation that grounds the entire space fantasy in a concrete reality. The motivations of both Luke and Owen are crystal clear—Luke's a young man with big dreams to travel the stars, but his Uncle needs help on the farm.

As I've gotten older, I sympathize with Owen. What will he do without Luke's help? Droids can't do everything. Luke's also the couple's adopted child, and giving him up to the Academy will be hard, even for the curmudgeonly Owen. The scene becomes more poignant when compared to its mirror in *The Phantom Menace*, when Anakin expresses his own desires at the kitchen table to Qui-Gon.

For a movie loaded with special effects, the only effect in Owen and Beru's dining room is the food coloring used to create blue milk. I love this scene because it cuts right to the heart as pure character drama.—Michael Kogge, *Star Wars Rebels: The Rebellion Begins* author



40. HAN SOLO'S REVENGE

Blind Han Solo yelling, "Boba Fett? Boba Fett! Where?" —Freddie Prinze Jr., Kanan, *Star Wars Rebels*

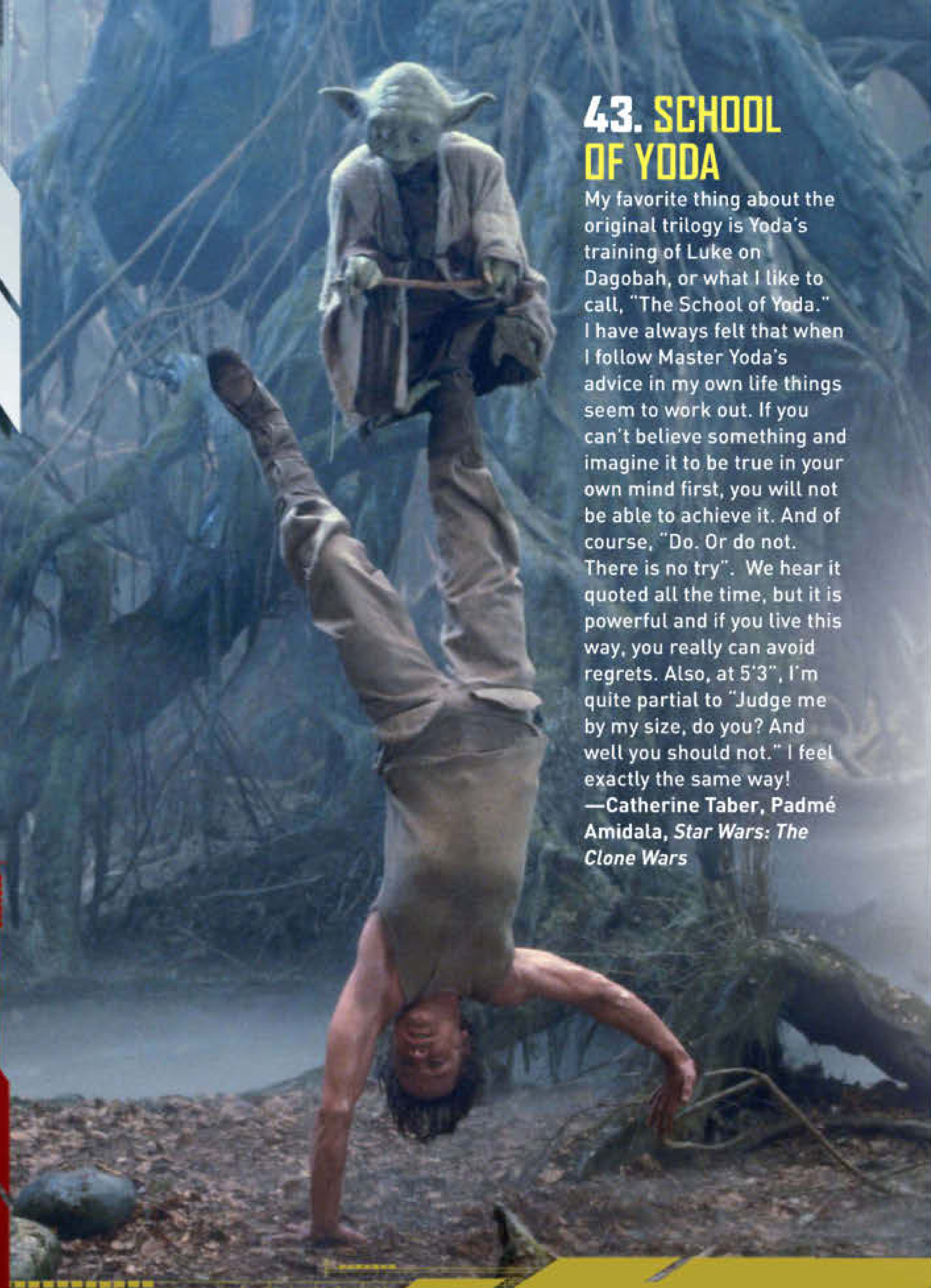


41. CANTINA GIRL

I was an alien in the Cantina in *Star Wars*. Working on the film, I never knew what the script was about; it was just a job at the time. My makeup was three hours a day, and I did five days shooting and got two days overtime just for my makeup! I was called a few cheeky names whilst on set, and had my bum bitten by Kenny Baker! I did my knitting in the breaks and the one thing that was very nice was that I was allowed to take two Polaroid pictures of myself to show my Dad who was very ill. —Pam Rose, Leesub Sirlin, *A New Hope*

42. IT'S WORKING!

My favorite thing from the original trilogy is having worked on it! —Robert Watts, producer, the original trilogy



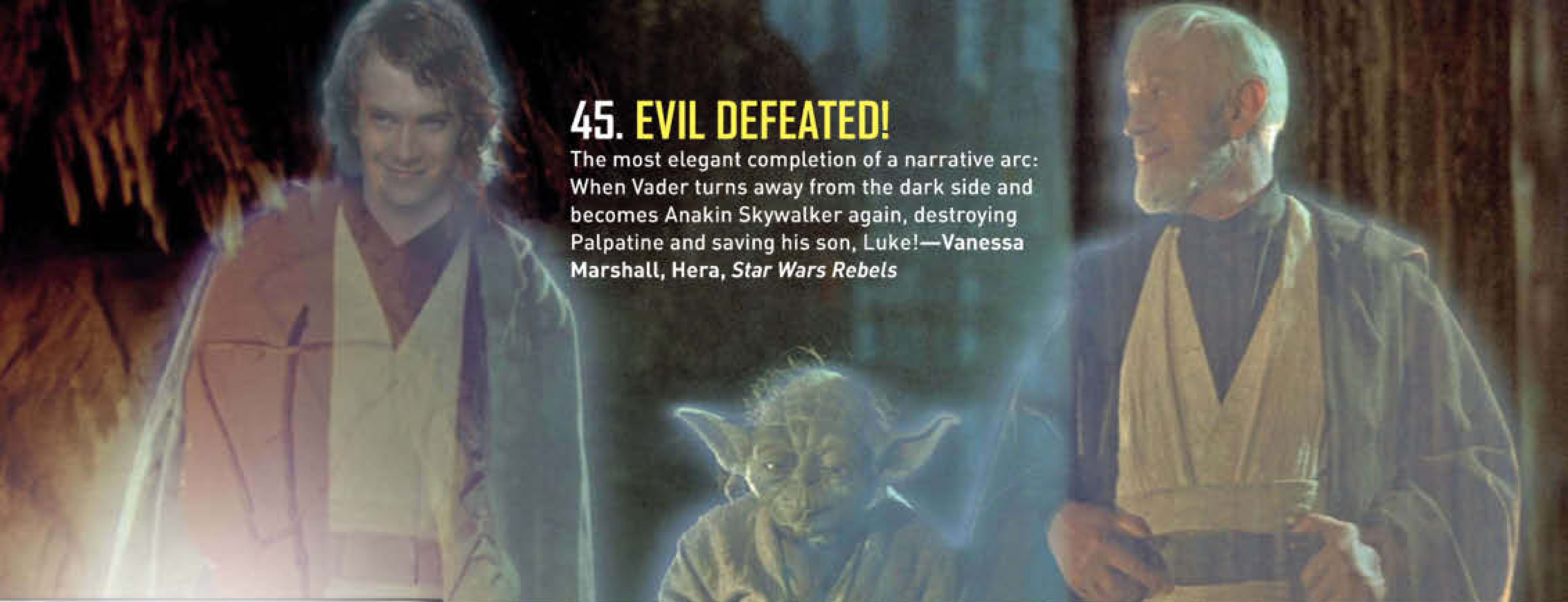
43. SCHOOL OF YODA

My favorite thing about the original trilogy is Yoda's training of Luke on Dagobah, or what I like to call, "The School of Yoda." I have always felt that when I follow Master Yoda's advice in my own life things seem to work out. If you can't believe something and imagine it to be true in your own mind first, you will not be able to achieve it. And of course, "Do. Or do not. There is no try". We hear it quoted all the time, but it is powerful and if you live this way, you really can avoid regrets. Also, at 5'3", I'm quite partial to "Judge me by my size, do you? And well you should not." I feel exactly the same way! —Catherine Taber, Padmé Amidala, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*

44. STANDING ON CEREMONY

The music at the end of *A New Hope* gets me every time. I saw this movie in Walthamstow, London. I took my daughter and as the heroes came to collect their medals my daughter, who was 5 years of age at the time, shouted out at the top of her voice, "LOOK DAD, THERE YOU ARE!" I could not find a hole big enough! Nick Joseph, medal bearer (standing behind Carrie Fisher), *A New Hope*



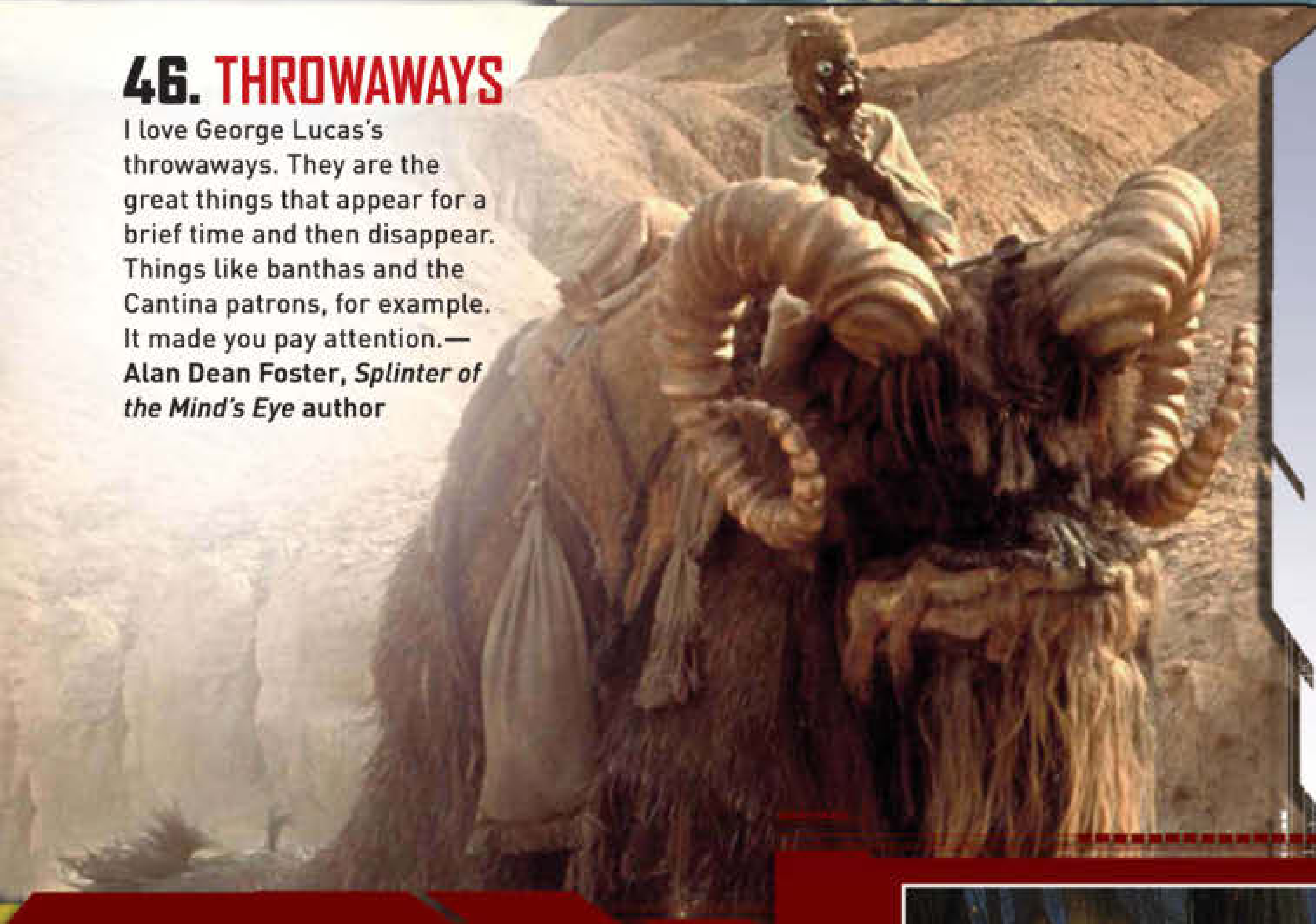


45. EVIL DEFEATED!

The most elegant completion of a narrative arc: When Vader turns away from the dark side and becomes Anakin Skywalker again, destroying Palpatine and saving his son, Luke!—Vanessa Marshall, Hera, *Star Wars Rebels*

46. THROWAWAYS

I love George Lucas's throwaways. They are the great things that appear for a brief time and then disappear. Things like banthas and the Cantina patrons, for example. It made you pay attention.—Alan Dean Foster, *Splinter of the Mind's Eye* author



47. SQUEAK!

I love the original *Star Wars* to bits! The mouse droid in the hallway and the smug delight Chewbacca took in routing it pops into my mind whenever I think of my favorite part!—Mary Jo Duffy, former Marvel Comics *Star Wars* editor



48. LIGHT SIDE WINS!

My favorite thing about the original trilogy is the message I take away from the movies. To me, it's a story of hope and of good overcoming evil. I cannot help but be inspired every time I watch these classic films!—Ashley Eckstein, Ahsoka Tano, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*



49. ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN

It's hard to imagine now, but the original *Star Wars* generation had to wait over a decade to find out that Ponda Baba was an Aqualish. These days, the names and backstories of bit players are served up instantly, on action figure packaging, visual dictionaries or encyclopedic websites. But in the original trilogy days, the galaxy was uncharted, and it felt like anything could happen. The nooks and crannies of the Mos

Eisley Cantina, Cloud City, or Jabba's palace were filled with surprises, and cryptic names like Walrus Man, Hammerhead, or Tooth Face formed a springboard for imagination.

That sense of the unknown, of unanswered questions, was actually a key part of the experience. It formed the basis of schoolyard debate and discussion for years in-between movies. The prequel era brought with it a bittersweet trade-off. In exchange for accessible, authoritative voices that settled *Star Wars* debates, we've given up some of the mystique and wonder that

comes from the unknown. I'm excited to get that back as we head into new storytelling territory—Pablo Hidalgo, *Star Wars* Story Group member

50

That pause between "A long time ago..." and the opening titles. It's always electric. —LJ, *Star Wars Insider* reader, via Twitter

Photo of Vanessa Marshall courtesy of Cherie Roberts



WONDERCON 2014

At Wondercon, I got to meet the 501st Southern California Garrison. I made many new friends, including Kevin Weir, an expert costume and prop designer, who is currently teaming up with Hollywood special effects designer Lilo Tauvao to offer a new line of cosplay armor in 2015.



I also met 501st So Cal Garrison power couple, Stacey and Michael Bender.

Stacey and Michael Bender (TK 6682) (photo by Mark Edwards).



I was later invited to the 501st Dinner, where I met so many wonderful people: Scott Allen, Lesley Fahquar, Jon Farmer, Barry C., Ray Choi, Ruark Dreher, Jamie Dymndog, Doug Ridley, and his fantastic family. It was so awesome to be included!



My table at the 501st dinner with Kevin Weir (left), Matt Martin, Amanda Jean, Michael and Stacey Bender, Scott Allen, and myself.

THE VOICE OF *STAR WARS REBELS*' HERA WRITES EXCLUSIVELY FOR *STAR WARS INSIDER*! THIS ISSUE: THE FAN EXPERIENCE!

SUMMER OF 1977

In 1977, I was in Boulder, Colorado, staying with my cousins for the summer. It was just like any other summer, until my aunt, Carol Kuykendall, took us all to see a new "space opera" that had just been released into theaters. I will never forget the mesmerizing music, the scrolling text, and the thunderous rumble of that first Star Destroyer gliding across the screen. It was unlike anything I had ever seen, before or since. *A New Hope* grabbed a hold of my heart and soul, and never let go.



Me (center) with my cousins Derek Kuykendall (left) and Lindsay Kuykendall (right) in the summer of 1977.

Since then, I have seen every subsequent *Star Wars* film on opening day, gained a deeper understanding of the powerful mythic elements within the saga (which have impacted on my own writing), and now I am extremely honored to play Hera Syndulla in *Star Wars Rebels*.

In this column, I look forward to sharing my personal experiences with fans, examining the more unique aspects of *Rebels* and, ultimately, offering readers a "behind-the-scenes" look at the daily life of *Rebels* production.



Posing with the 501st Southern California Garrison at Wondercon 2014 (photo by Mark Edwards).

After the *Star Wars Rebels* panel with Dave Filoni, Kilian Plunkett, and Kevin Kiner (hosted by David Collins), I met the masterful cosplay family "The Rogue Rebels."



The Rogue Rebels, from left: Liz Perales as Sabine, Sal Perales as Kanan, myself, Lizzy Perales as Hera, Victoria the Teddy Bear as Chopper, and Axel Perales as Ezra.

MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU

To celebrate *Star Wars* Day, Disney hosted an event at Children's Hospital, Los Angeles. I went with the 501st and joined the fun!



May the 4th be with you, T-shirt.



Reunited with an old pal, Chopper, at Children's Hospital.



Signing an autograph for Darth Vader (Scott Allen, SL9854 of the Southern California 501st Legion).

COMIC-CON INTERNATIONAL: SAN DIEGO 2014

San Diego's annual comic-con in 2014 was a mind-blowing experience. I was made an honorary member of the Mandalorian Mercs at the *Rebels* premiere party, along with Tiya Sircar (Sabine). We were both presented with personalized plaques, Sabine helmets, and Sabine graffiti paint-gun props (thanks to Tom Hutchens, Mandalore the Uiter). I got to see Hasbro's new Hera action figure, and participated in a 501st Southern California Garrison panel on costume design. I also moderated the Del Rey panel for *A New Dawn* by John Jackson Miller. Finally, the *Rebels* panel with Dave Filoni, Simon Kinberg, Freddie Prinze Jr., Taylor Gray, Tiya Sircar, and Steve Blum was also sublime!



Squee! Tiya and I are made honorary members of the Mandalorian Mercs!

Follow all Things  on Twitter
@HasbroNews
#HasbroSDCC



Tiya and I show off our cool new action figures!



The *Star Wars Rebels* panel in full swing with Freddie Prinze, Jr. and I fielding questions from the crowd!

I joined author John Jackson Miller, Lucasfilm's Dave Filoni and Pablo Hidalgo, plus Del Rey editor Shelly Shapiro for the *A New Dawn* panel.



CLOSING THOUGHTS

In the past, my *Star Wars* fandom has been a deeply personal experience. Today, I am thrilled to expand my universe! I look forward to meeting many more members of the *Star Wars* community! Until then, may the Force be with you... Always!

MORE TO SAY

Follow Vanessa on Twitter:
@vanmarshall

HAVE YOU?

FOR THE STAR WARS FAN WHO HAS EVERYTHING

WITH THE HOLIDAY SEASON FAST APPROACHING, THE PERENNIAL QUESTION ALWAYS COMES UP: WHAT DO YOU GIVE THE *STAR WARS* FAN WHO HAS EVERYTHING? *INSIDER* HAS TAKEN A LOOK AT SOME OF THE MORE OFF-CENTER COLLECTIBLES—GUARANTEED TO DELIGHT THE *STAR WARS* FAN IN YOUR LIFE!

FOR SCOUNDRELS!



THE HAN SOLO HOLSTER!

CEO and co-founder of ANOVOS, Joe Salcedo explains what goes into creating exact replicas of Han Solo's holster and other iconic props and costumes from *Star Wars*. Interview by Amy Ratcliffe

Star Wars Insider: Tell us about your role at ANOVOS.

Joe Salcedo: Officially my role is CEO of the company, CEO/Co-Founder. The other co-founder is Dana Gasser. And it's important to note his name as well, because we both started the company about five years ago, and the reason we did is, we were collectors. We were customers. We were prop builders, just like any of the other fans. We just thought, *Wouldn't it be cool just to actually do this for real and bring what we build to a more massive level, that's licensed, and more accessible?*

Your line of costumes and props so far has included franchises such as *Star Trek* and *Battlestar Galactica*. How did you come to work with Lucasfilm on *Star Wars* replicas? Dana and I have always been *Star Wars* fans, and that's where it all started. So, when we discovered that the *Star Wars* license was up for offer, we felt this is the time. If you look at the grand scale of things, what we have learned from *Star Trek* and *Galactica*,



and continue to learn, really helped us mature to the state where we could take on *Star Wars*.

You strive for screen accuracy, so for something like Han Solo's holster, how does the process and research work? Do you visit the Lucasfilm archives?

The process always starts at the archives to see what they have available, and we're very lucky in that they actually do have the Han Solo holsters. Keeping in the back of your mind the actual piece and being able

to scan it is only about 50 percent of the journey. [Lucasfilm] allowed us to go into the archives and actually scan this in full resolution so that we had a one-to-one scale for replicas. We also check our notes as far as the thickness of the leather that was used, the finish of the leather that was put on, and we then took our own set of measurements. So, being able to replicate in the visual world was absolutely perfect. What we discovered was that no replica to this date has ever remotely come close to it. There are complex curves on this thing that, unless you had a picture from up top at 20 feet, you wouldn't have been able to account for. So we went out and said, "You know what? This is great. We're going to do it this way." We actually made our first replica. Now, that's only half of the story.

Everything from the waist up to the connectors that connect the actual holster to the belt—everything was downsized. And so that's how we were able to capture so many sizes with this because they all have individually different patterns that were digitally graded. That took a great deal of time. That's what people get to look forward to with this: When they put this thing on—if they followed our sizing guidelines—it's going to look right. They may not know why or how, but it just looks right and it fits right. That part—that design, that grading





portion—that's all Dana and his fantastic team.

There's something iconic about Han Solo, and it was not only obtaining that look; it was also finding the right partner who would actually manufacture it. And I'm very proud to say that that holster is actually put together by people in the USA, in California.

Can the holster be adjusted to match Han's look from any original trilogy film?

Yes. Basically, the set that you see now is an answer—all. You'll get all the different buckles [*A New Hope*, *The Empire Strikes Back*, and *Return of the Jedi*]. You'll also get all the different inserts that go inside the belt. That's another thing. The greeblies—the things that go inside the belt—no one's ever gotten them right because they've never had the opportunity to go in the archives and take these

things out; whereas, we have scanned them in 3D and actually got them 3D-printed out so that people will have exact replicas.

Is the holster weathered by hand?

The manufacturer we chose for those—and it was very important that we found someone who could do this—actually specializes in a lot of western re-creation holsters. They do it for a lot of movies. We just had a meeting with them about the right finish on the holster, the kind of streaking and everything. So, to answer your question, yes, it's going to come already pre-weathered so that the look is very near to what you see on screen.

That was very critical for us, even in the way that the belt buckle is made. We had to make sure that the person making the belt buckle could actually do screen-printing on metal so that we can add that very particular burned-out look that the holster has. We made sure that the person who was making the metal buckles could add that spray print to capture that detail.

So, with those details, they've given the effect that the holster is weathered—not that they're truly weathered and ready to fall apart, but they have to look like it! For more information, visit www.anovos.com



TAKE HOME A HOLSTER!

For a chance to win an ANOVOS Han Solo holster, write in to the address on page 3 by January 23, 2015. Subject line: "I'm quick on the draw!"



FOR WHIZ KIDS...

A SANTA CRUZ SKATEBOARD

Every cool kid—and adult—needs a decent set of wheels, and what better way to get around than on a limited edition *Star Wars* skateboard from Santa Cruz?

A variety of *Star Wars* skateboard decks are available in either “Collector’s Edition” or “Shred Ready” models so fans can set up one to ride or keep the other in its highly collectible packaging! Each board features a popular *Star Wars* character, with heroes such as Luke Skywalker, Han Solo, and Chewbacca, and villains such as Darth Vader, a stormtrooper, and Boba Fett!

A standout piece in the collection is the Darth Vader Wood Inlay deck. The entire graphic is constructed using laser cut maple, elm and walnut burl wood veneers that are then individually hand-assembled. These unique decks are laser serial-numbered with matching numbered Certificates of Authenticity and encased in their own custom foil printed and embossed display box.

For more information, visit www.santacruzskateboards.com

WIN!

For a chance to get your hands on a Boba Fett board, write in to the address on page 3 by January 23. Subject line: “I see why they call you the best bounty hunter in the galaxy!”

FOR MUSIC LOVERS

THE PHANTOM MENACE OST ON VINYL

In the age of digital downloads, it’s easy to forget the beauty of a 12” vinyl record; the artwork on the sleeve—large and immediate—and the genuine sense of connection to the music as the needle finds the groove. It’s more than nostalgia. Sadly, the last *Star Wars* soundtrack to see release on the format was *Return of the Jedi*—that is, until I AM SHARK intervened. Now John Williams’ majestic score to Episode I is finally available on a gorgeous two-disc 180 gram limited edition set with a spectacular gatefold sleeve. For more information, visit www.iamshark.com

WIN!

For a chance to win a copy, email the address on page 3 by January 23. Subject line: “Duel of the Fates!”



FOR BAKING JEDI MASTERS

LAKELAND BAKING PRODUCTS

Need a little intergalactic help in the kitchen? Lakeland has created a fantastic set of culinary aids, including chocolate moulds, cookie cutters, and cake pans!

For more information, visit:
www.lakeland.co.uk/starwars





← FOR HEALTHY JEDI

STAR WARS VITAMINS

Containing more than 10 vitamins and minerals, NatureSmart's line of *Star Wars* vitamins come in four distinct bottles: Yoda, Chewbacca, Darth Vader, and R2-D2. Each corresponding bottle features 120 vitamins in fun *Star Wars* shapes and tasty flavors such as sour apple, fruit punch, and blue raspberry! A great gift for all ages—and good for you, too! For more information, visit www.naturesmartvitamins.com

FOR SCHOLARS



SHAKESPEARE'S STAR WARS TRILOGY

A great example of thinking outside the Holocron, Ian Doescher's take on the original *Star Wars* trilogy is now available as a three-volume boxed-set.

Thrill as the greatest saga of *all-time* is re-imagined as if written by the greatest playwright of *all-time*! The saga lives on in exciting iambic pentameter with glorious Elizabethan-style artwork by Nicolas Delort!

For more information, visit www.quirkbooks.com/ShakespeareStarWars



For a chance to take home a copy of this set, write into the address on page 3 by January 23. Subject line: "Artoo, Brute?"

FOR ART LOVERS



STAR WARS ART

No *Star Wars* fan's coffee table is complete without a pile of the *Star Wars* Art series of books. The five-volume series, which features artwork curated by George Lucas himself, encompasses five themes: *Visions*, *Comics*, *Illustration*, *Concept*, and *Posters*.

All volumes are available in a choice of standard or extremely limited deluxe editions. The deluxe editions feature high quality hand-signed prints, and exclusive bonus pages. For more information, visit: www.abramsbooks.com



ANAHEIM 2015 STAR WARS CELEBRATION



FOR PARTY PEOPLE!



CELEBRATION TICKETS

2015 is shaping up to be a great year for *Star Wars* fans, with one of the most exciting things to look forward to being Celebration Anaheim, which takes place April 16-19. Previous Celebrations have seen big-name guests, exclusive screenings, and myriad surprises! Tickets are now on sale for the ultimate *Star Wars* party!

For more information, visit www.starwarscelebration.com

WIN!

We have two four-day tickets to give away to one lucky reader! Simply write into the address on page 3 by January 23. Subject line: "I want to join the Celebration!"



FOR GAMERS



TURTLE BEACH STAR WARS HEADSET

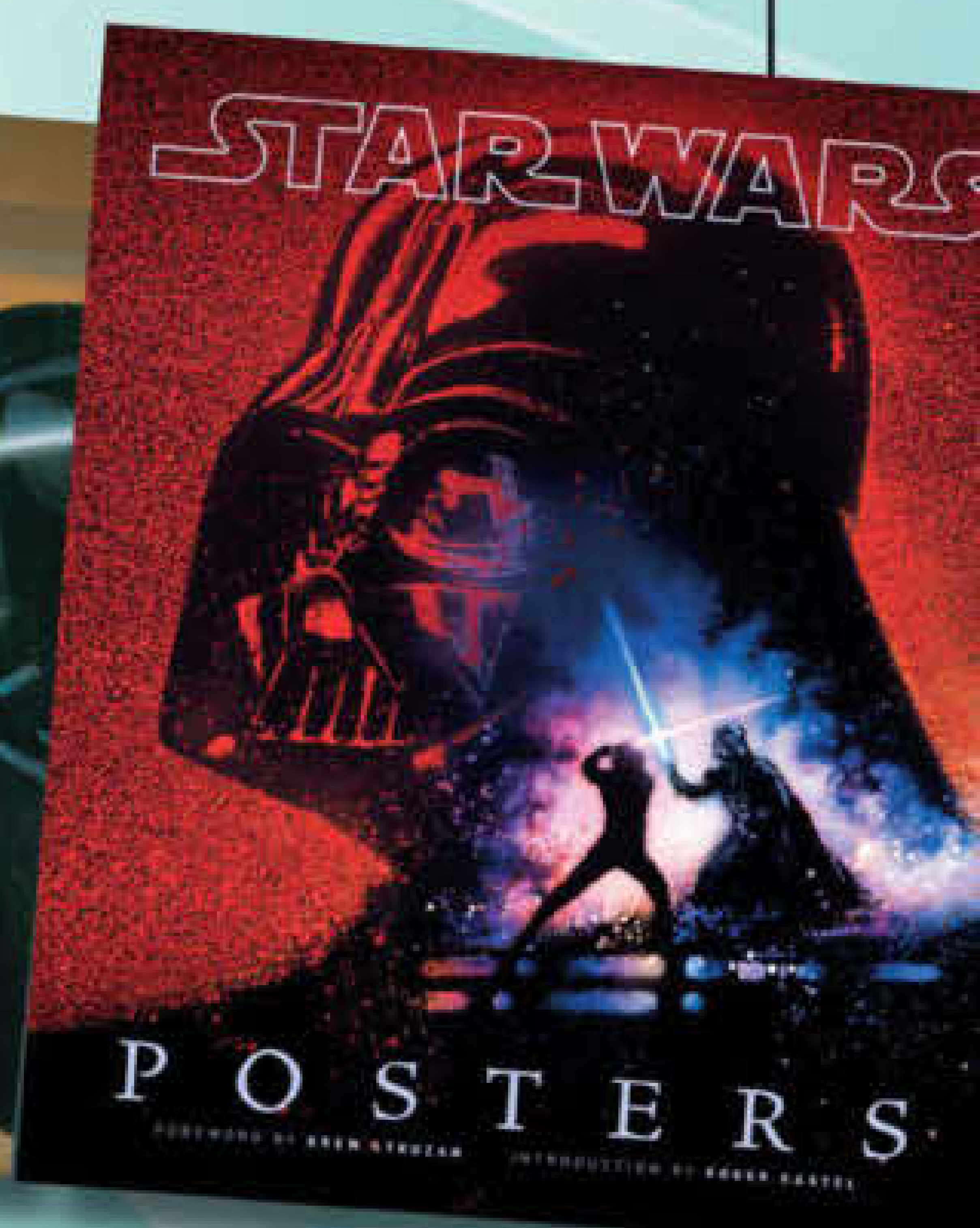
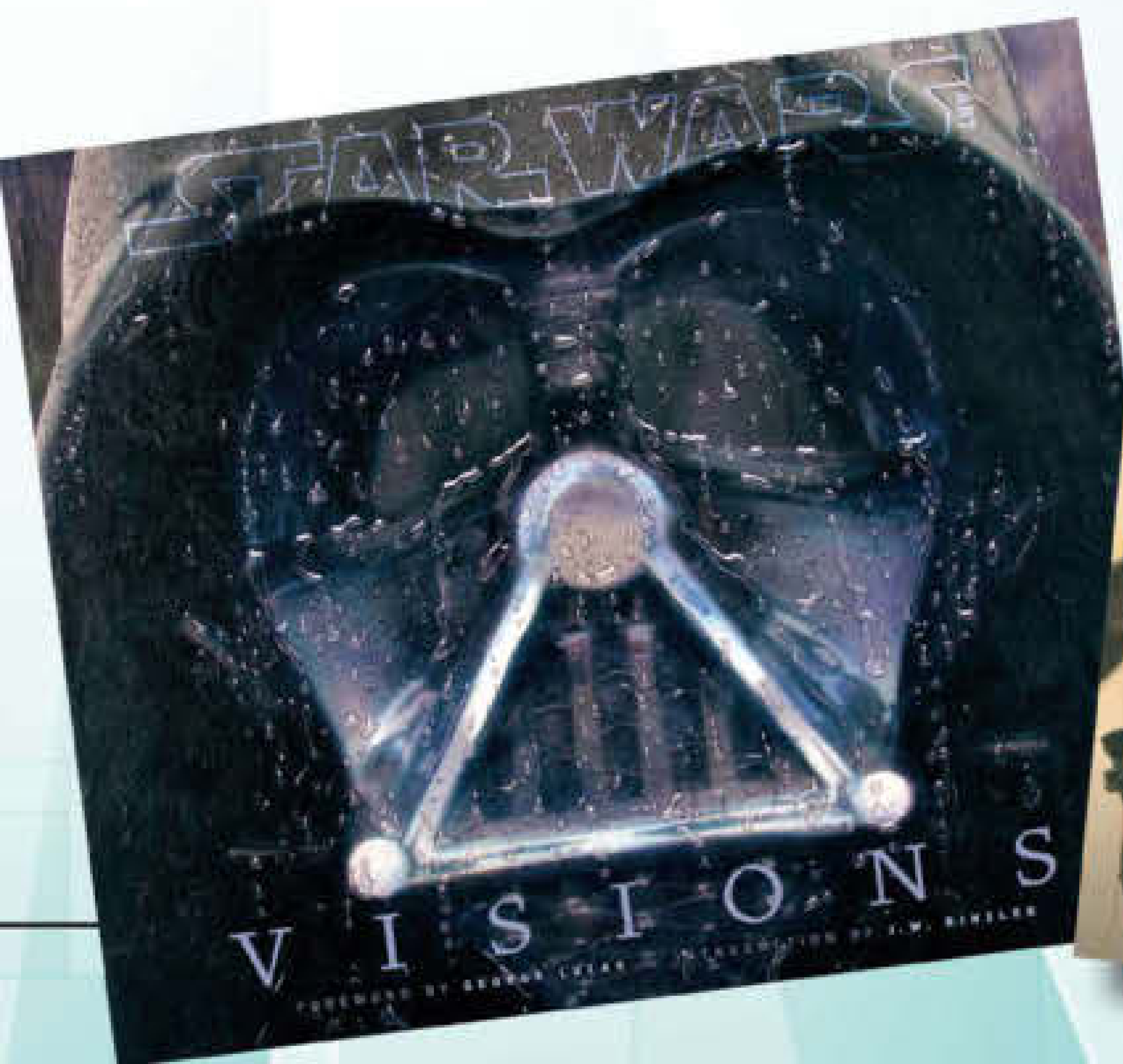
Embrace the dark side of the Force with this stereo gaming headset. Ideal for games, music, and movies, you can personalize the headset with collectible speaker plates of your favorite *Star Wars* characters, starting with the Darth Vader plates (included)!

For more information, visit www.turtlebeach.com

WIN!

For the chance to win one of five sets of these headphones, write into the address on page 3 by January 23. Subject line: "The Force of Sound!"

FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS PLEASE VISIT WWW.TITANMAGAZINES.COM





STAR WARS REBELS CONCEPT ARTIST CHRIS GLENN DISCUSSES WORKING ON THE ANIMATED SERIES AND DESIGNING AN ICONIC LOGO. INTERVIEW BY AMY RATCLIFFE



DESIGNING STAR WARS REBELS

Star Wars Insider: Tell us about your role in bringing *Star Wars Rebels* to the screen.

Chris Glenn: I'm a concept designer in the design department. The design department is a bizarre gang of crazy artists that hang out and design new stuff for the show. We create paintings of new spaceships, new characters, and new places to go. Anything the new episodes need to tell a great story!

Are there any specific characters you've spent most of your time working on or had a lot of design input on?

Early on in the show, we had a great collaborative environment with all the designers working on all the characters under the guidance of art director Kilian Plunkett. I worked on quite a few, but probably focused more on Chopper, Kanan, Zeb, and a bunch of background characters.

The process for designing characters always starts with executive producer Dave Filoni. He usually has something in mind that he's looking for, and I start by sketching two or three options based off those initial ideas. Dave and Kilian review those, and I then create more revised drawings until the idea is fully realized. From there, I make color paintings of the character from different views and design any other details that will help the 3D



Clockwise from above: Chris Glenn's iconic new *Rebels* logo; a Wookiee rampage doesn't go well for the stormtroopers; the Inquisitor takes command; design work for Ezra's multi-functional lightsaber; Ezra "surfs" atop Chopper; Ezra's hovel as seen in "Spark of Rebellion"; the planet Lothal at night; an early Chopper design; asteroids.



artists when they create the final CG models for the show.

Since *Star Wars Rebels* is set in a time between known events, what are the challenges of designing ships, symbols, uniforms, etc., that are similar to what we see in *A New Hope*, but not exactly like them?

It's definitely a challenge, but we try not to agonize over it. On one hand, we're always looking at the original trilogy and the artwork of Ralph McQuarrie as inspiration to make sure we're in the same world, on the right track. On the other hand, we love

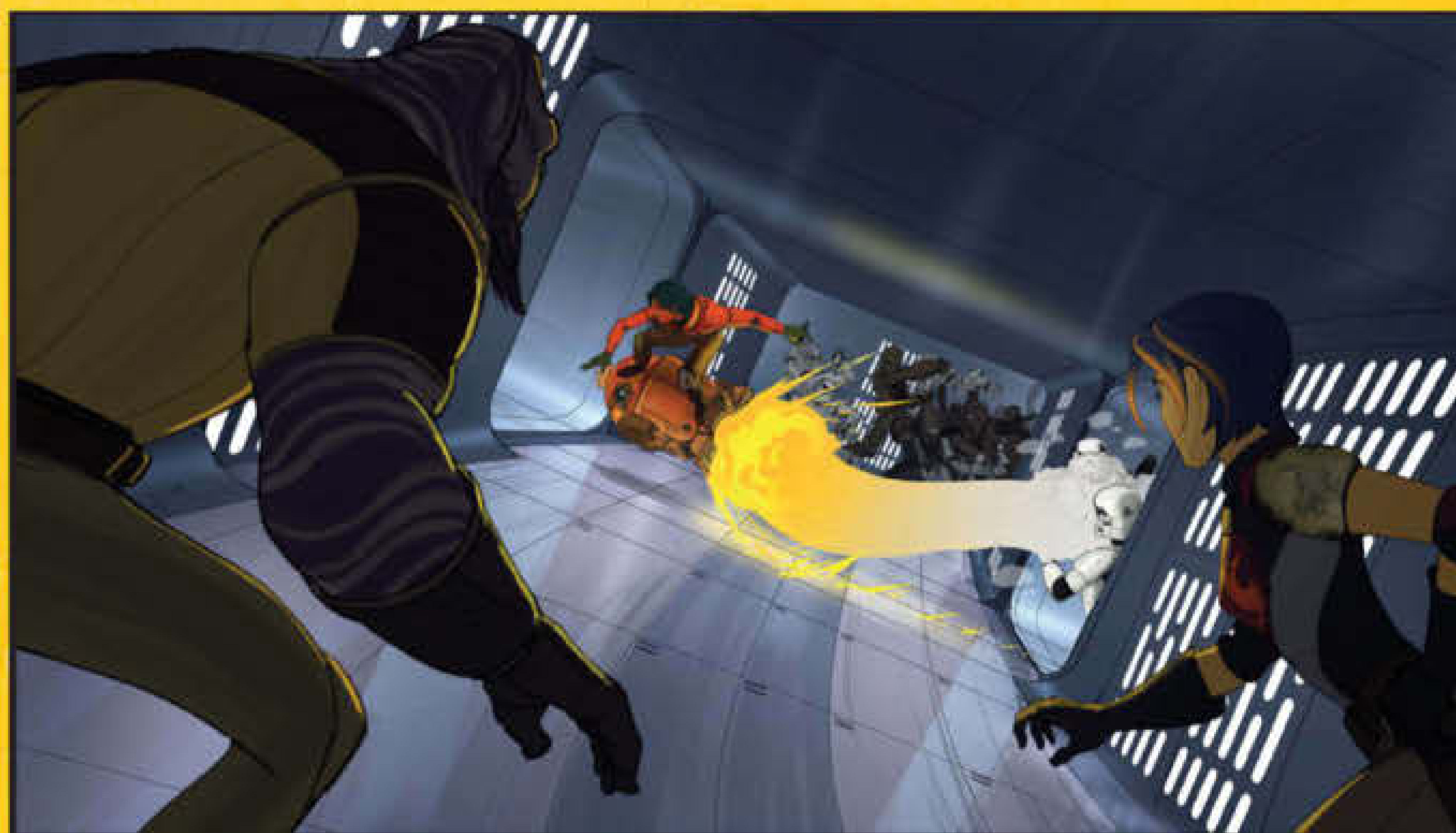


"GEORGE LUCAS ALWAYS LIKED TO TRY NEW THINGS, AND WE LIKE TO FOLLOW IN THAT SPIRIT."

creating new characters and new places to bring fresh adventures to the *Star Wars* galaxy. George Lucas always liked to try new things, and we like to follow in that spirit.

Which character from *Rebels* have you become the most attached to and why? I typically gravitate toward some of the wacky secondary characters, but of the main characters, I've become the most attached to Zeb. Our story and animation teams have done an amazing job bringing him to life, and the voice-over of Steve Blum is fantastic. Everyone has





Ezra Lightsaber

WOLF	
Ezra Lightsaber	(function)
Color	Blue
Material	Steel
Weight	1.5 lbs

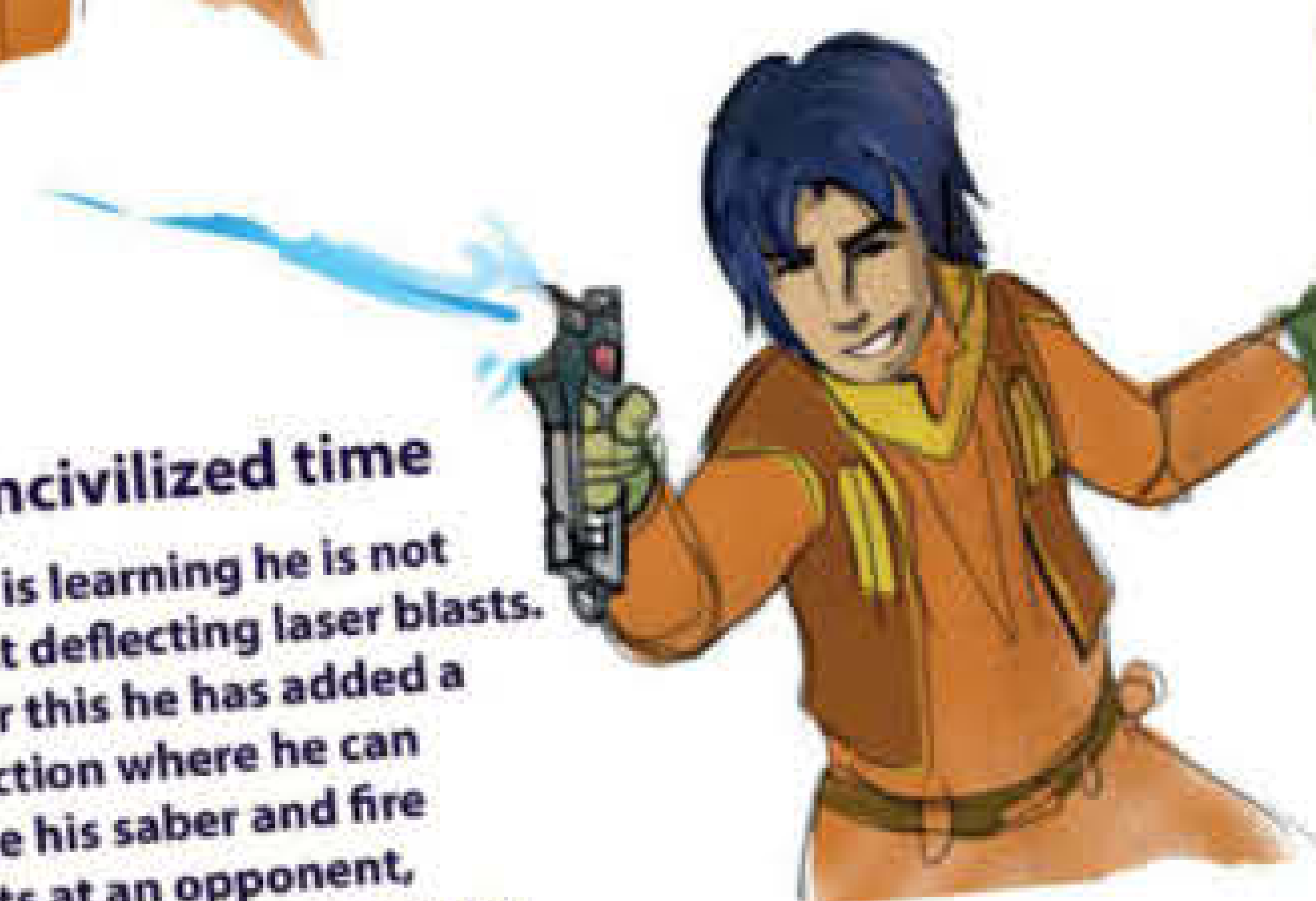


an elegant weapon...
lightsaber mode allows Ezra to train as a Jedi would. His saber is light and quick accenting his speed and size compared to his more powerful enemies.

*"The FX color and style are TBD CG Supervisor."
"Please see the "Ezra Lightsaber" sheet for build details."*

in an uncivilized time

Since Ezra is learning he is not as adept at deflecting laser blasts. To counter this he has added a mutli function where he can disengage his saber and fire stun blasts at an opponent, allowing him an opportunity to escape.



elevated Zeb into a character that is more than the sum of his parts.

What's it like working in a world inspired by Ralph McQuarrie's art, and what kind of research goes into creating art that references his designs?

It's amazing! For me, Ralph's work evokes the hope and adventure of science-fiction during the '70s and '80s, which I love. It's been a lot of fun to dig into.

For research, we look at all of Ralph's work, including all of his illustrations from outside *Star Wars*. He has a unique way of designing and depicting scenes that we try to capture. We break down his painting process and also break down his design sense. We look for shapes and proportions that he liked to use, and we use similar elements to evoke a similar feeling in our designs. In that way, new designs feel like they live in the same world.

Is there one design element of *Rebels* you're particularly proud of and can't wait for the audience to see?

I'm probably most proud of the *Rebels*' phoenix logo. I made it one day on a whim while working on really early versions of the *Ghost* ship, and it's remained unchanged all the way through marketing. It's meant to hint at the Rebel Alliance symbol that will appear in the later films. It's a simple thing, but sometimes with design the simplest ideas are the best. 🐦

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

FREE *STAR WARS* INSIDER T-SHIRT!

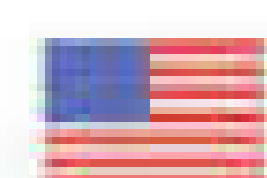


**ONLY
AVAILABLE
TO
SUBSCRIBERS!**

**AVAILABLE IN
SIZE SMALL,
MEDIUM, LARGE,
XL AND XXL**

**T-SHIRT OFFER VALID FOR
ORDERS IN THE U.S.
CANADA AND THE U.K.**

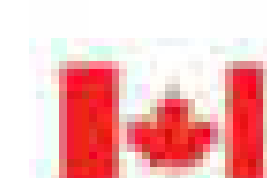
U.S.



**8 issues for
\$49.99**

**TO ORDER CALL
1-800-261-6502**

CANADA



**8 issues for
\$64.99****

**TO ORDER CALL
1-818-487-4575**

U.K.



**8 issues for
£27.99**

**TO ORDER CALL
0844 576 7858**

VISIT **WWW.TITANMAGAZINES.COM/INSIDER**

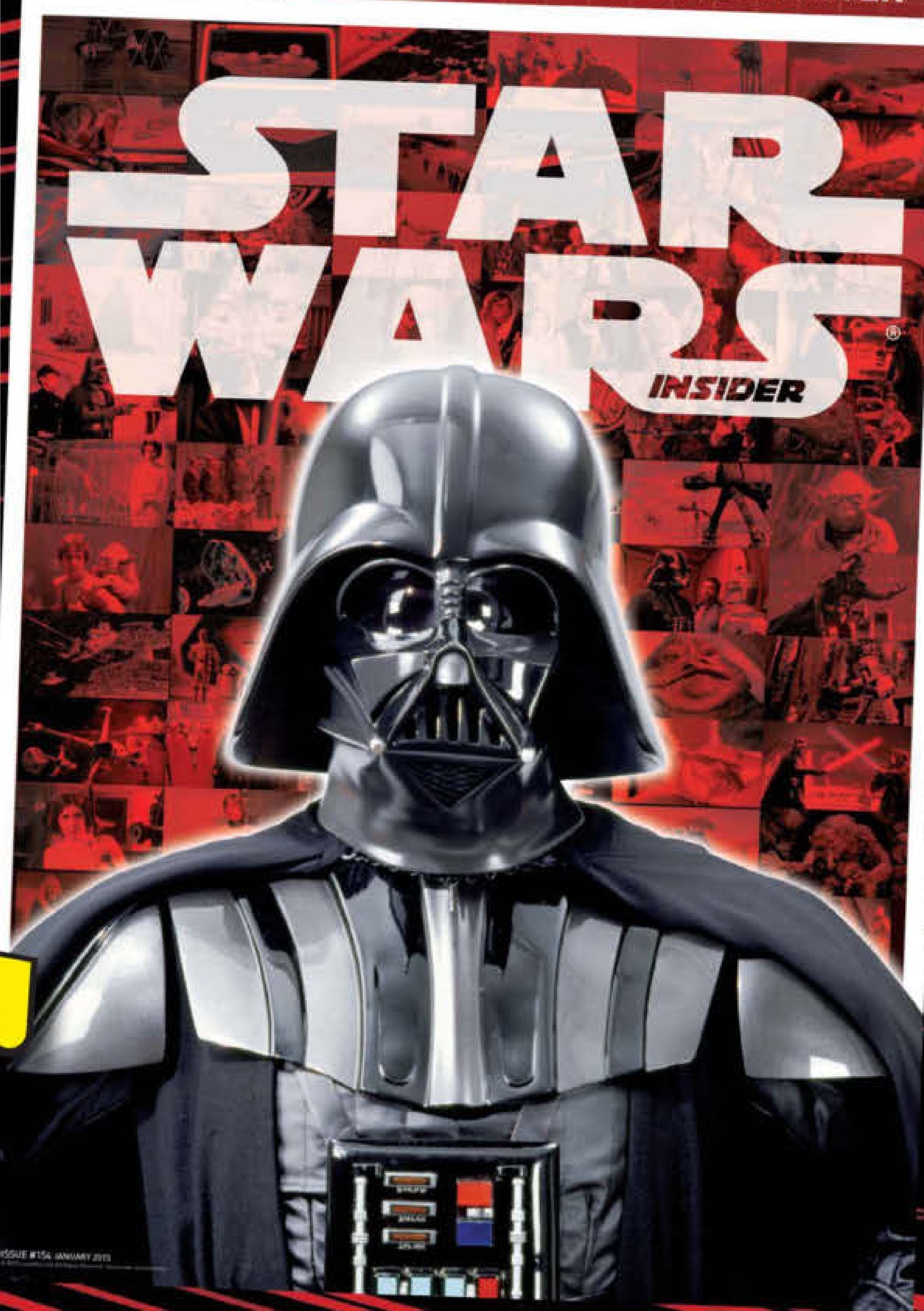
WHY SUBSCRIBE?

OFFER INCLUDES:

- 8 AWESOME ISSUES OF *STAR WARS INSIDER*!
- SAVE UP TO 20% OFF THE COVER PRICE!
- FREE *STAR WARS INSIDER* T-SHIRT!
- EXCLUSIVE SUBSCRIBER COVERS!
- DELIVERY DIRECT TO YOUR MAILBOX!



EXCLUSIVE SUBSCRIBER COVER



*Free T-shirt offer only valid with U.S., Canadian and UK print orders. Offer not valid with Eire, Australian, New Zealand and Rest of the World orders. Offer valid until supplies last. Sizes available, small, medium, large, extra large and extra extra large.

**Free delivery for U.S. and U.K. orders only. Canadian price includes \$15 shipping and handling. Eire/Australia/New Zealand/Rest of the World prices include additional postage and packaging costs.

**PRICES
EXCLUDING
T-SHIRT
SAVING 10%**

EIRE, AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

£43.99 £43.99

£43.99

TO ORDER CALL: +44 1795 419831

REST OF THE WORLD

\$65.99

TO ORDER CALL:
+001 800 261 6502

VISIT WWW.TITANMAGAZINES.COM/INSIDER



FOLLOWING UP ON
OUR PREVIOUS FEATURE
ON THE COSTUMES OF
A NEW HOPE, HERE'S
INSIDER'S TRACK ON
THE OUTFITS OF *THE
EMPIRE STRIKES BACK*.
REPORT BY AUTHOR
BRANDON ALINGER

STAR WARS COSTUMES THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

STAR
THE
**EMPIRE
STRIKES BACK**

WARS
PART 1

38 *INSIDER*

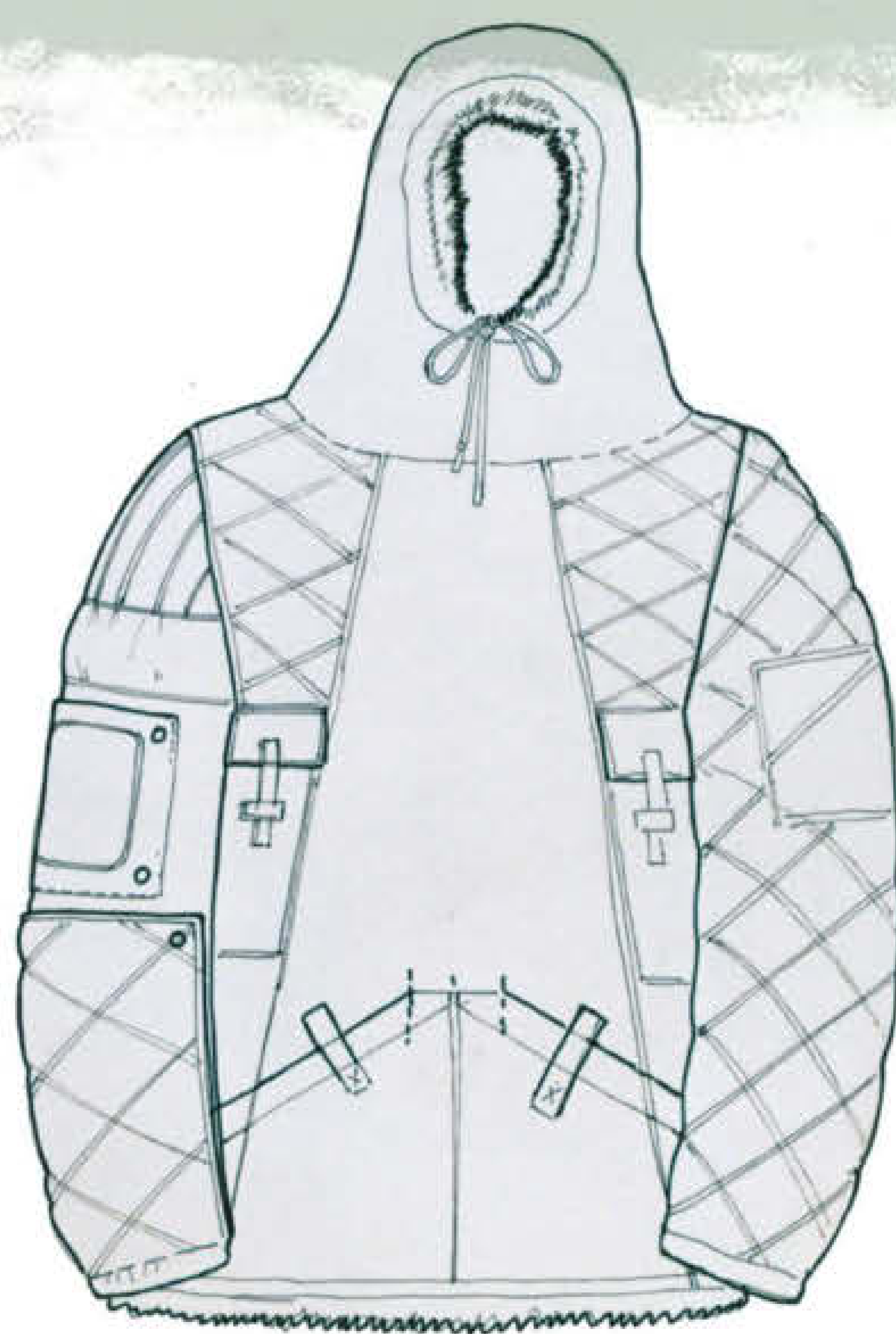


The costumes of *The Empire Strikes Back* were the most difficult to research for *Star Wars Costumes: The Original Trilogy* (available now from Chronicle Books). No archival interviews on the subject were available, and tracking down members of the film's costume department was difficult. Fortunately, costume designer John Mollo was happy to chat and invited me to spend a day at his home near Oxford, in England, where we waded through photographs and discussed the designer's final *Star Wars* film. *Empire* was a more challenging film for Mollo than *A New Hope*. He began, as he had on the first film, with a small number of concept sketches that were sent over from the US. Key concept artists Ralph McQuarrie and Joe Johnston had started working on designs for the sequel just months after the first film's release. The pair explored the visual dynamic of the new worlds—Hoth and Cloud City—and completed

some costume concepts as part of that study. Notably, the designs for the snowtroopers and Boba Fett were established during this period. But the vast majority of the costumes were to be worked out by Mollo. Beyond updating the look of the returning characters, the English designer had to create new garb for a variety of new characters who would appear on Hoth and Cloud City. While the costumes of the first film had been very nondescript, he felt the sequel needed something more. "I had a tendency to make the designs slightly more interesting on this film," says Mollo. "I was hoping to get in a

slight enrichment of things." Mollo began sketching away with this in mind, and produced a huge number of illustrations. He found it more difficult to get decisions from director Irvin Kershner and producer Gary Kurtz than he had working directly with George Lucas on the original film. As such, many wildly different directions were considered for the costumes of *Empire*. These were explored through both physical prototypes (which Kershner and Kurtz liked to see) and Mollo's numerous sketches. The unused concepts are fascinating as they are frequently far more intricate and elaborate than the final costumes.

So... read on for a taste of some of *Empire's* war stories from the frozen plains of Hoth and be sure to read the next issue of *Insider*, where we will look at the Imperial costumes and take a trip to Cloud City!



▲ The snow jacket of the rebel soldiers went through a number of design revisions as well. Here is a line-art version of one design considered. On *Empire*, Mollo did many line-art drawings that could be copied for experimenting with different color schemes. The rebel outfits wound up being some of his favorites in the film.

▼ The designer envisioned expanding the ranks of the rebel forces. The outfits depicted in these sketches were distilled down to just a few basic outfits for officers and technicians.



1. REBEL GENERAL



2. TECHNICIANS ETC.



3. STARFIGHTER PILOT



4. LANDSPEEDER CREW



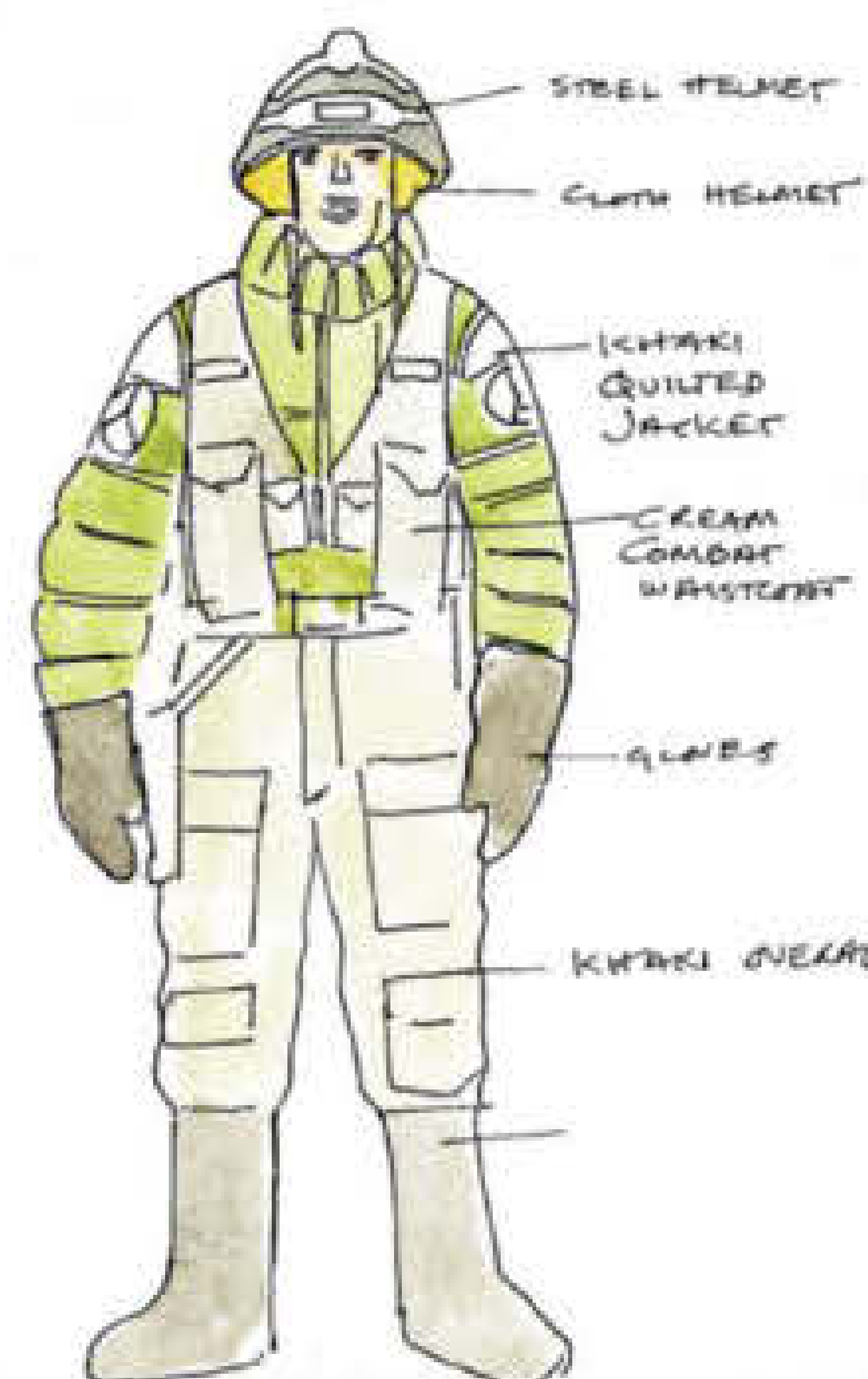
5. SNOWTROOPER OFFICER



6. SNOWTROOPER



7. GROUND CREWMAN



8. STAR CRUISER CREW



▼ Both Joe Johnston (above right) and Ralph McQuarrie (above left) conceived of the rebel soldiers wearing combat helmets on Hoth, similar to the ones they donned in *A New Hope*. Mollo (below) continued refining the design and considered making the helmets in vacuum-formed plastic.

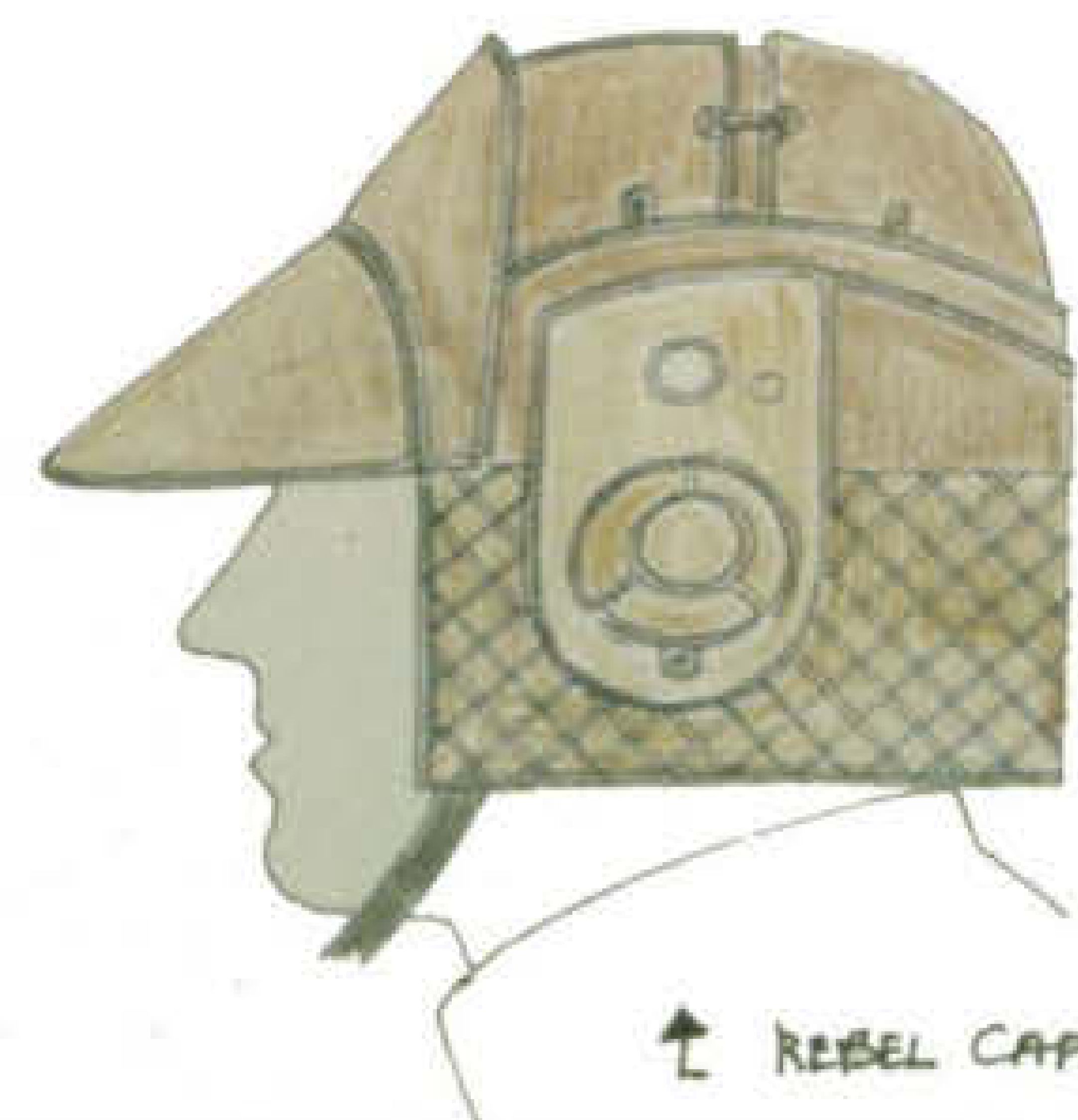


► Ultimately, the rebel soldiers were given caps rather than helmets. It is not clear whether this was a practical decision (for budget reasons, etc.) or a stylistic one. A cap with a large fin, seen in this Mollo illustration, was considered as a means of distinguishing Luke, but was not used in the end.



↑ REBEL CAP AS WORN BY LUKE

► Many crew members doubled as extras for sequences shot on location in Norway. Here, associate producer Jim Bloom doubles as a Hoth rebel commando. The outfits were unlined and designed to be worn under hot studio lights, rather than in real frozen terrain.



↑ REBEL CAP



▲ A number of new R2-D2 units were fabricated for *Empire*, including a few new models for use as a "costume" by Kenny Baker. The interior of one of the droid's domes, seen at left, was decorated to keep Baker entertained during downtime on the set. (Standing at the center is visual effects supervisor Brian Johnson.)

AUTHORS OF THE EXPANDED UNIVERSE: **THE LEGEND OF**



TWENTY-THREE YEARS OF **STAR WARS COMICS**

BY MICHAEL KOGGE

AS DARK HORSE COMIC'S EPIC *STAR WARS* RUN REACHES ITS CONCLUSION, *INSIDER* LOOKS BACK AT THE COMPANY'S RICH LEGACY.

"THE DARK TIMES"

Like many phrases in *Star Wars*, it is one that has grown in meaning. Initially, it is the name Obi-Wan gives to the somber era of Palpatine's Empire, when the Jedi are all but extinct. Yet diehard fans also refer to "the dark times" as the long stretch after *Return of*

the Jedi, when it seemed that interest in *Star Wars* was on the decline. By 1986, the Saturday morning cartoon *Ewoks* had aired its series finale, Kenner had discontinued its vaunted *Star Wars* action figure line, and Marvel had concluded publishing its decade-long *Star Wars* comic. Though smaller companies like West End Games and Blackthorne Publishing would license *Star Wars* for

role-playing games and 3D comics, in the public eye *Star Wars* seemed to have gone the way of the Jedi. This five-year dormancy might have felt like an eternity, but it most certainly was not the end. As Obi-Wan says in the *Star Wars Rebels* premiere, "In time, a new hope will emerge." For fans of *Star Wars* comics, this new hope came from a publisher in Oregon—called Dark Horse Comics.

DARK HORSE



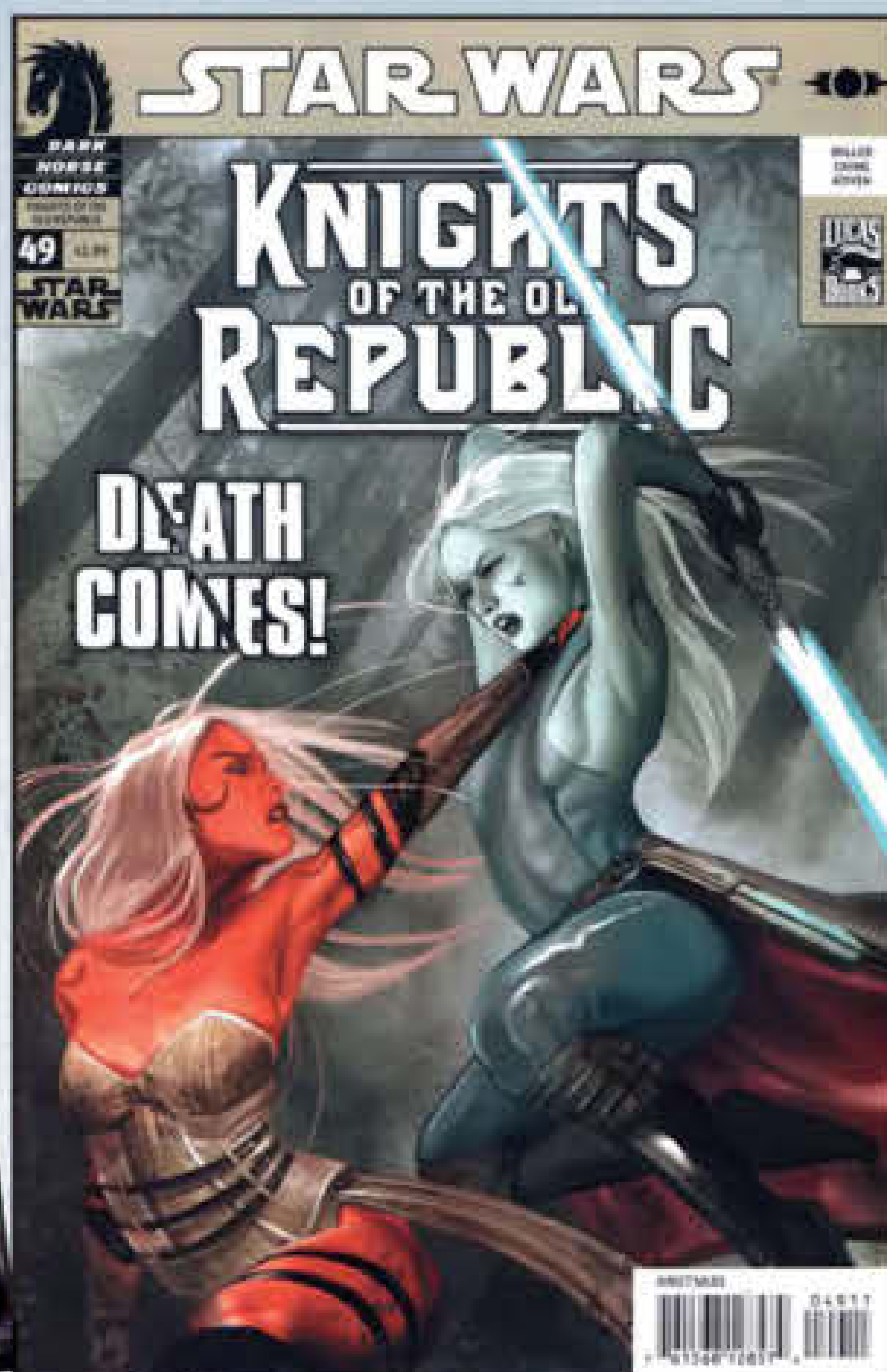
HUMBLE PASTURES

In 1986, the same year *Star Wars* had faded from popular culture, comic shop owner Mike Richardson was unimpressed with the books he sold on his shelves, believing there should be more independent, creator-owned work. He founded Dark Horse Comics to remedy the situation, attracting the field's top talent by treating them as partners rather than work-for-hire contractees. Over the next couple of years, the sales of titles such as *Dark Horse Presents*, *Concrete*, and *The Mask* helped Richardson's company carve out its own slice of the comics market, which had long been the domain of the two industry heavyweights: DC Comics and Marvel.

At that time, the major comic book publishers did not invest much energy into the film properties they licensed from Hollywood studios. Often they would produce an adaptation of the film itself, but not pursue continuing the story as a series, believing there wouldn't be enough sales to justify it. Marvel Comics' *Star Wars* title proved to be an exception to the rule, but by the mid-1980s its luster, too, had faded. Richardson, however, perceived the value of recognizable, licensed characters in sustaining and growing his business. Genre films, particularly science fiction, boasted a large and loyal audience that read comics and which also craved sequels. While it might take a studio many years to develop a sequel, Dark Horse could "make" one on paper in far less time, translating

the cinematic experience into comic book form.

"People forget that in pre-90s comics history, license-based comics were often lacking," Richardson says. "Companies relied on the heat of a film in release or interest in a television series to sell a licensed book, and they didn't always worry about the quality of the material inside. We took a different approach. We found the projects we really liked and, rather than publish a series of unrelated stories featuring the characters, we tried to create a sequel in comic book form. This approach was an amazing success in our first real hit, *Aliens*. We followed that series up with similar success in franchises such as *Predator*, *Terminator*, and of course, *Aliens vs. Predator*."



"AT ITS CORE, STAR WARS IS ALL ABOUT BIG EMOTIONS. IF YOU LEAVE THAT OUT, YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANYTHING."—RANDY STRADLEY

A DARK EMPIRE FOR A DARK HORSE

After garnering critical and commercial success licensing film properties from Twentieth Century Fox, Richardson aimed his sights at acquiring the comic publishing rights for the most iconic science fiction, or space fantasy, property of them all: *Star Wars*. "We were *Star Wars* geeks. I saw the original film 19 times in the theater," Richardson recalls. "Those who weren't around when it was released will never understand what a groundbreaking film it was."

"We were able to secure the license through sheer determination and constant nagging. Lucy Wilson was in charge of [publishing] at Lucas in those days and she decided to give us a chance at it."

Dark Horse's first *Star Wars* series was one that actually had originated at Marvel—*Dark Empire*. In 1988, writer Tom Veitch and artist Cam Kennedy, fresh off their critically acclaimed comic *The Light and Darkness War*, had received the greenlight from Lucasfilm to create a limited series for Marvel's Epic imprint that told the adventures of Luke



Skywalker post-*Jedi*. Unfortunately, changes in editorial at Marvel postponed the title indefinitely. Mike Richardson saw and liked Veitch and Kennedy's work-in-progress so much that he asked Lucasfilm if his company could move forward and publish it. Lucasfilm agreed.

"Once I saw what they had in mind, it was definitely a factor in Lucy's decision," Richardson says. "Ironically, it fit exactly with our philosophy with regard to licensed books based on films, that is, we wanted to do the sequels and prequels you might never see on the screen."

NEW BEGINNINGS

The dark times for new *Star Wars* stories came to an end in 1991 in a one-two punch: Bantam Spectra published *Heir to the Empire*, the first *Star Wars* novel since 1983's *Lando Calrissian and the Starcave of ThonBoka*, and Dark Horse debuted *Dark Empire* half-a-year later in December. *Heir to the Empire* shot to the number one spot on the *New York Times* bestsellers' list and *Dark Empire* became a comic book blockbuster, still continuing to sell copies two decades after its first printing.

"It really was a case of there being a hungry audience who wanted more *Star Wars*, and us (and Bantam) being in the right place at the right time," says Dark Horse editor Randy Stradley. "Plus, George Lucas provided us with a practically limitless sandbox, already filled with the best toys anyone could want. All we had to do was make sure the stories we told remained true to the spirit of the films he created."

"But *Dark Empire* did help to change the public and fan perspective on *Star Wars* by really expanding the then fledgling Expanded Universe."

TALES OF LONG, LONG AGO

Dark Horse followed *Dark Empire* with the twenty-issue series *Classic Star Wars*, which collected and colorized the nationally syndicated *Star Wars* comic strip by writer Archie Goodwin and artist Al Williamson that had appeared in newspapers in the 1980s. But Dark Horse wasn't going to rest on its hoofs with reprints while holding the *Star Wars* license; new stories demanded to be told, and not just about the Skywalkers. The *Star Wars* universe had its own rich history and mythology, much of which had never been explored. Dark Horse gladly took up that challenge. "The success of *Dark Empire* gave us confidence to stray even farther from the timeline of the original

trilogy (which, at the time, was the only trilogy) and produce projects like *Knights of the Old Republic* and *Tales of the Jedi*," Stradley says.

Tales of the Jedi was the first original series Dark Horse published after *Dark Empire*. Conceived and written by Tom Veitch, and drawn by Chris Gossett and a host of other artists, *Tales* delved into the fabled past of the Jedi, revealing the glory days of the Old Republic (see *Insiders* #150, 151, and 153 for the story of its genesis). After *Tales*, Dark Horse released a lighter series, *Droids*, featuring everybody's favorite robotic duo, along with Jabba the Hutt, the Princess Leia-starrer *River of Chaos*, an adaptation of Bantam's *Thrawn* Trilogy novels, and Veitch and Kennedy's sequel to *Dark Empire*. One of the most popular series was *X-wing Rogue Squadron*, which featured Wedge Antilles and the other pilots in lead roles and ran for 35 issues.

During their tenure, Dark Horse's *Star Wars* editors—Barbara Kesel, Peet Janes, Dave Land, Randy Stradley, Jeremy Barlow, and Dave Marshall, amongst others over the years—searched far and wide to pick the right talent for a project to guarantee its success. "I was always looking for writers who had something to say—a point to make—beyond just a series of events set in the *Star Wars* universe," says Stradley, "and always looking for artists who could express emotion as well as action, and who could bring humanity to an alien face."

Publishing a good comic requires more than just a talented penciller and writer, and Dark Horse spared no expense in also building strong teams of inkers, letterers, and colorists. Often overlooked but absolutely essential, artists such as Dan Parsons, Jordi Ensign, and Willie Schubert are some of the unsung heroes of Dark Horse's *Star Wars* comics.

"Among the colorists, I want to give nods to Brad Anderson, Michael Atiyeh, and Wes Dzioba," Stradley says. "And a formal bow is owed to Michael Heisler, who lettered virtually all of the *Star Wars* books for the final years of our run."

Opposite page, clockwise from left: Dark Horse Comics' adaptation of the first *Star Wars* spin-off book, *Splinter of the Mind's Eye*; *Knights of the Old Republic*, a tie-in to the video game; *The Star Wars* proved a critical and commercial smash-hit.

This page: Luke Skywalker returns in an iconic pose from *Dark Empire*.



EDITOR RANDY STRADLEY'S FIVE FAVORITE STAR WARS COMICS

My five favorites? That's a tough one, as each story or series offers something to recommend it. It's like asking me which of my children (if I had any) is my favorite. Okay, in no particular order:

1 I thought the *Invasion* series that Tom Taylor and Colin Wilson did was great. They expanded on Del Rey's New Jedi Order novels in a way that made the galaxy seem like a bigger, wilder place.

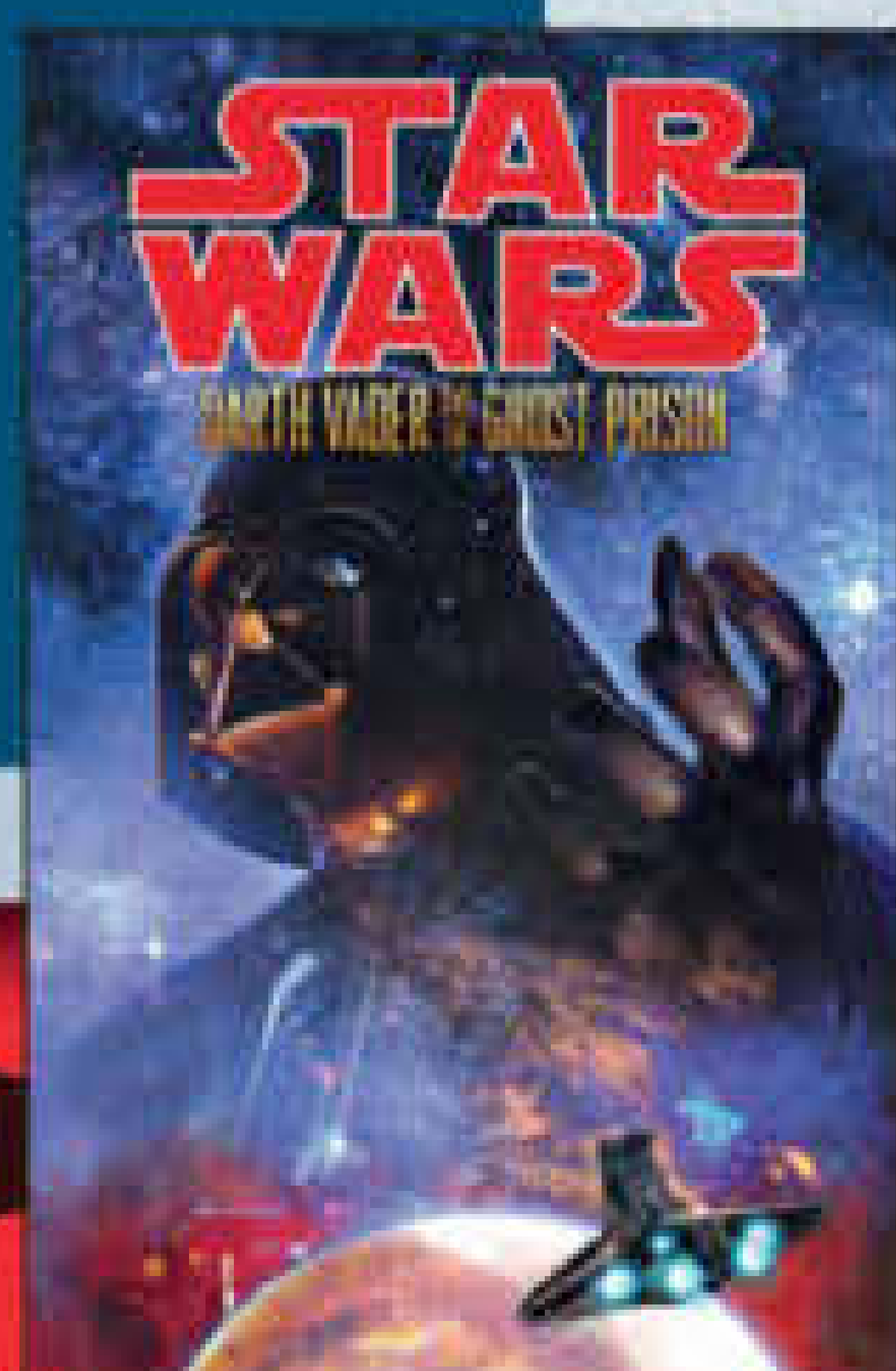
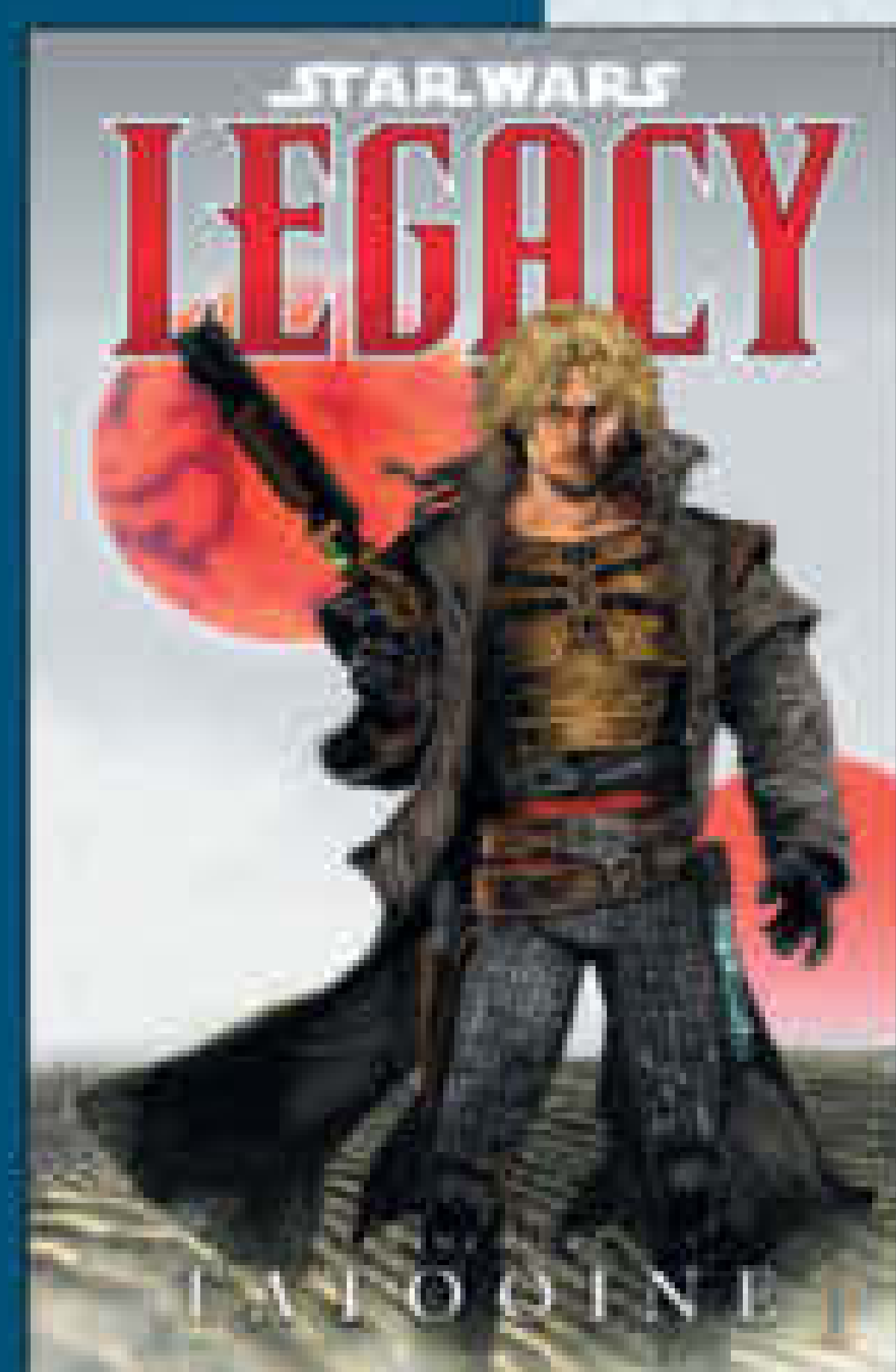
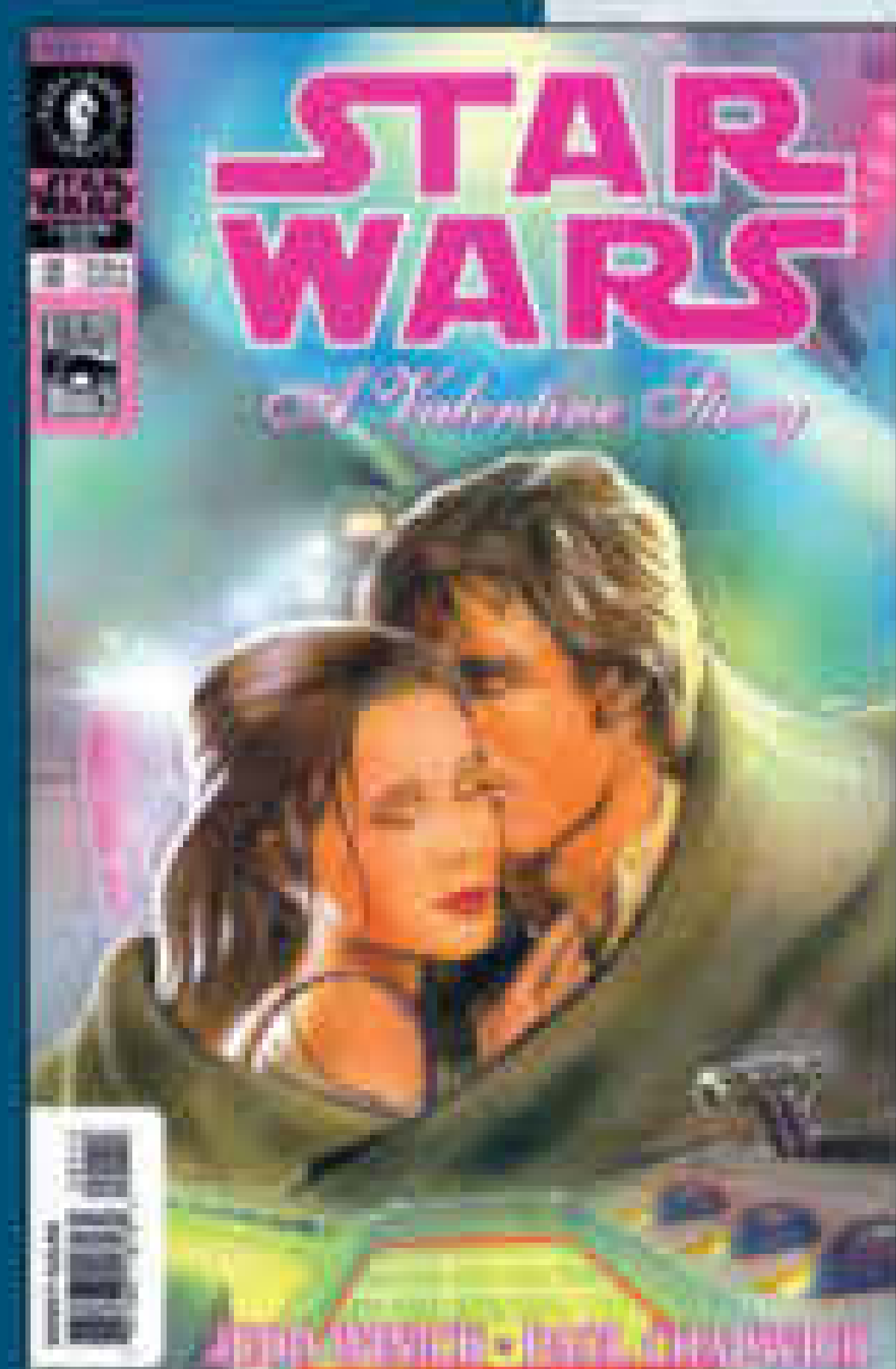
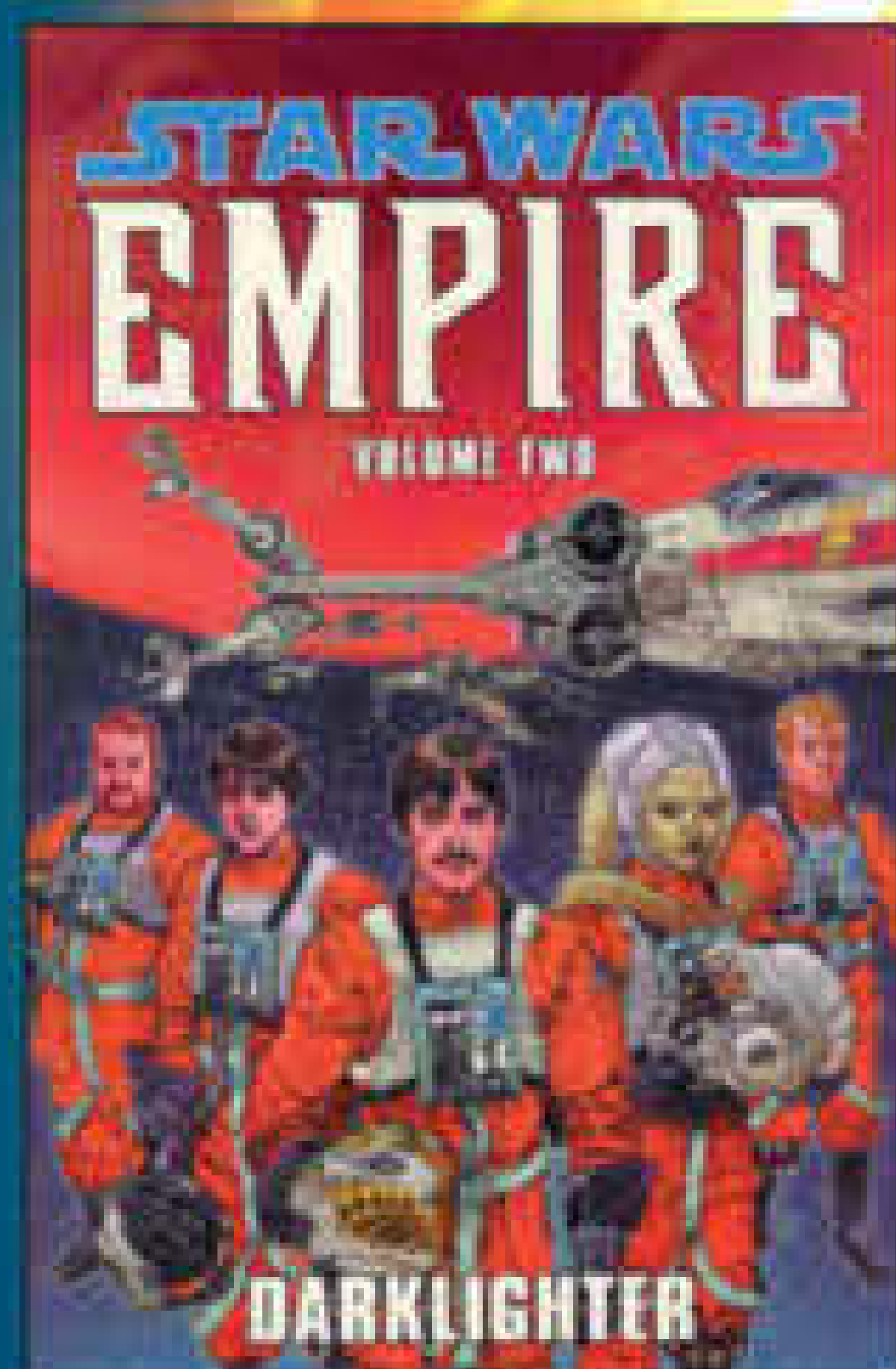
2 Paul Chadwick and Doug Wheatley's *The Saga of Biggs Darklighter*. Paul covered ground that you knew must exist, but did more than just fill in the gaps in continuity. And Doug's art was, as always, exquisite.

3 Judd Winnick and Paul Chadwick's one-issue story "Breaking the Ice." Some real heart-tugging going on there.

4 *Legacy* (both volumes) by John Ostrander, Jan Duursema and Dan Parsons, and by Corinna Bechko, Gabriel Hardman, and Brian Thies. As John Ostrander once said, "Everybody wants to know what happens next." We did "next." Or at least what used to be next.

5 The *Darth Vader and...* series. Haden Blackman and Tim Siedell (and all of the artists involved) did an amazing job of letting us peek behind Vader's mask.

Also, I have warm feelings for *Dark Times* drawn by Doug Wheatley, but I've got to disqualify myself there!



TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

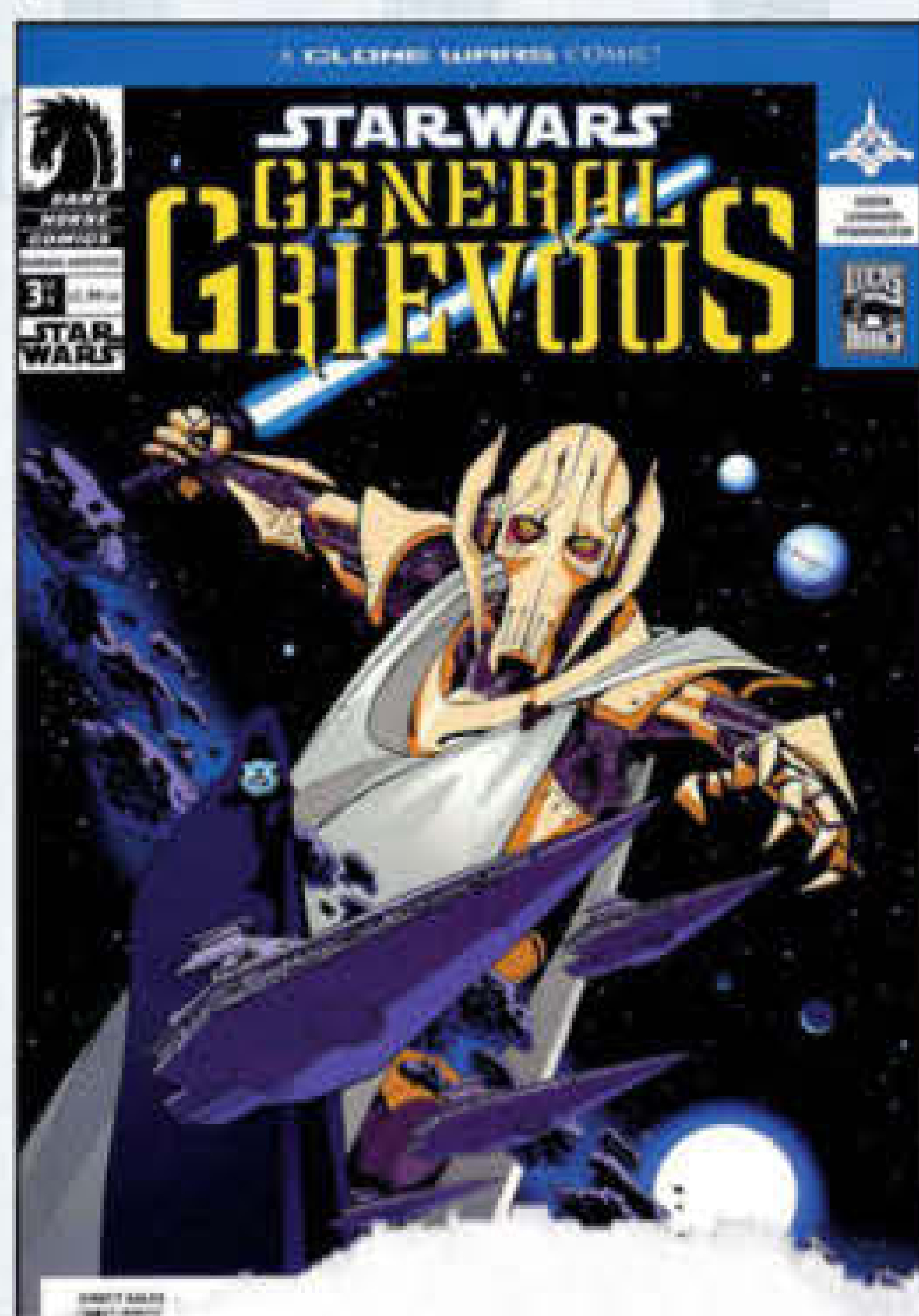
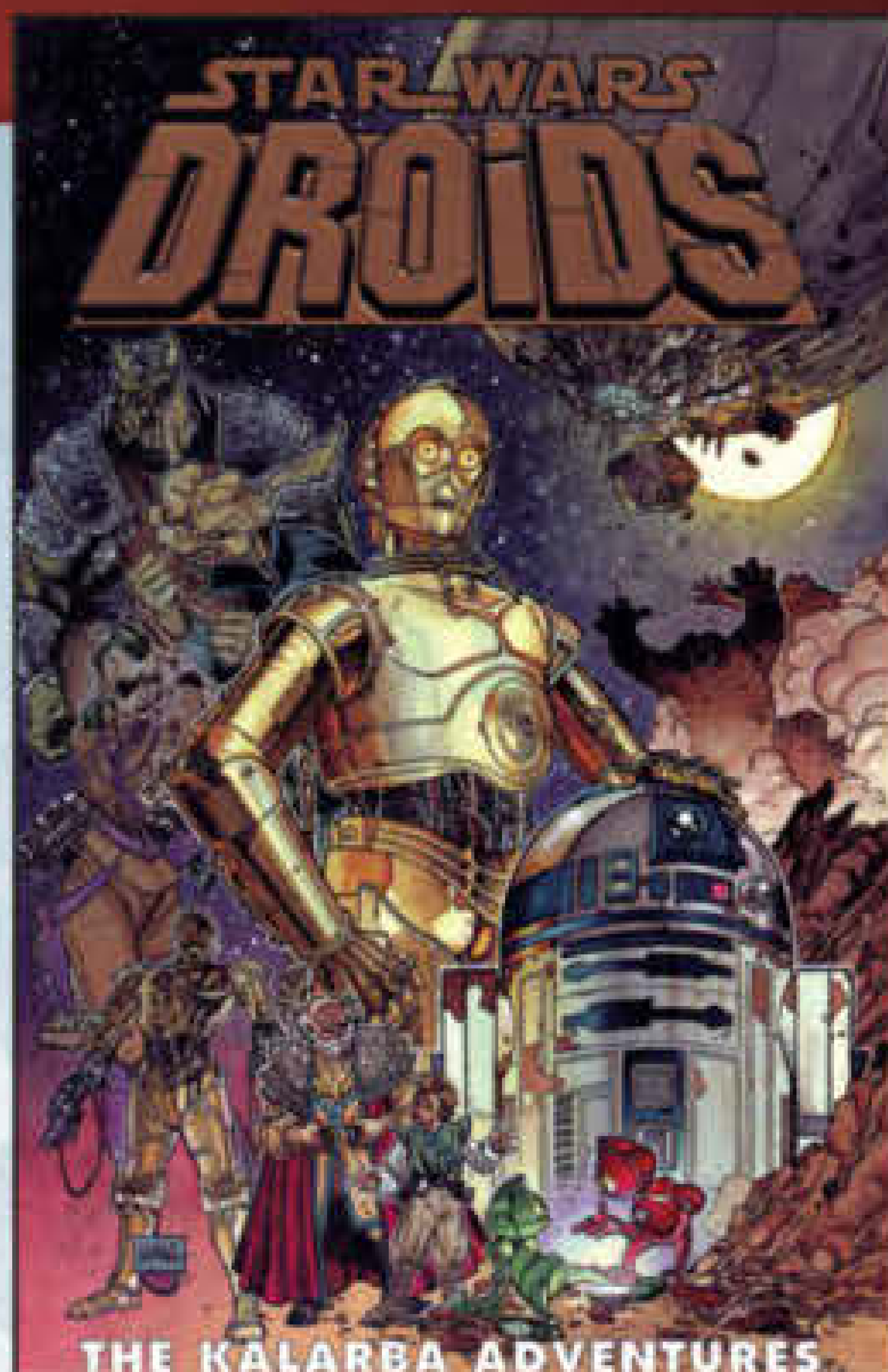
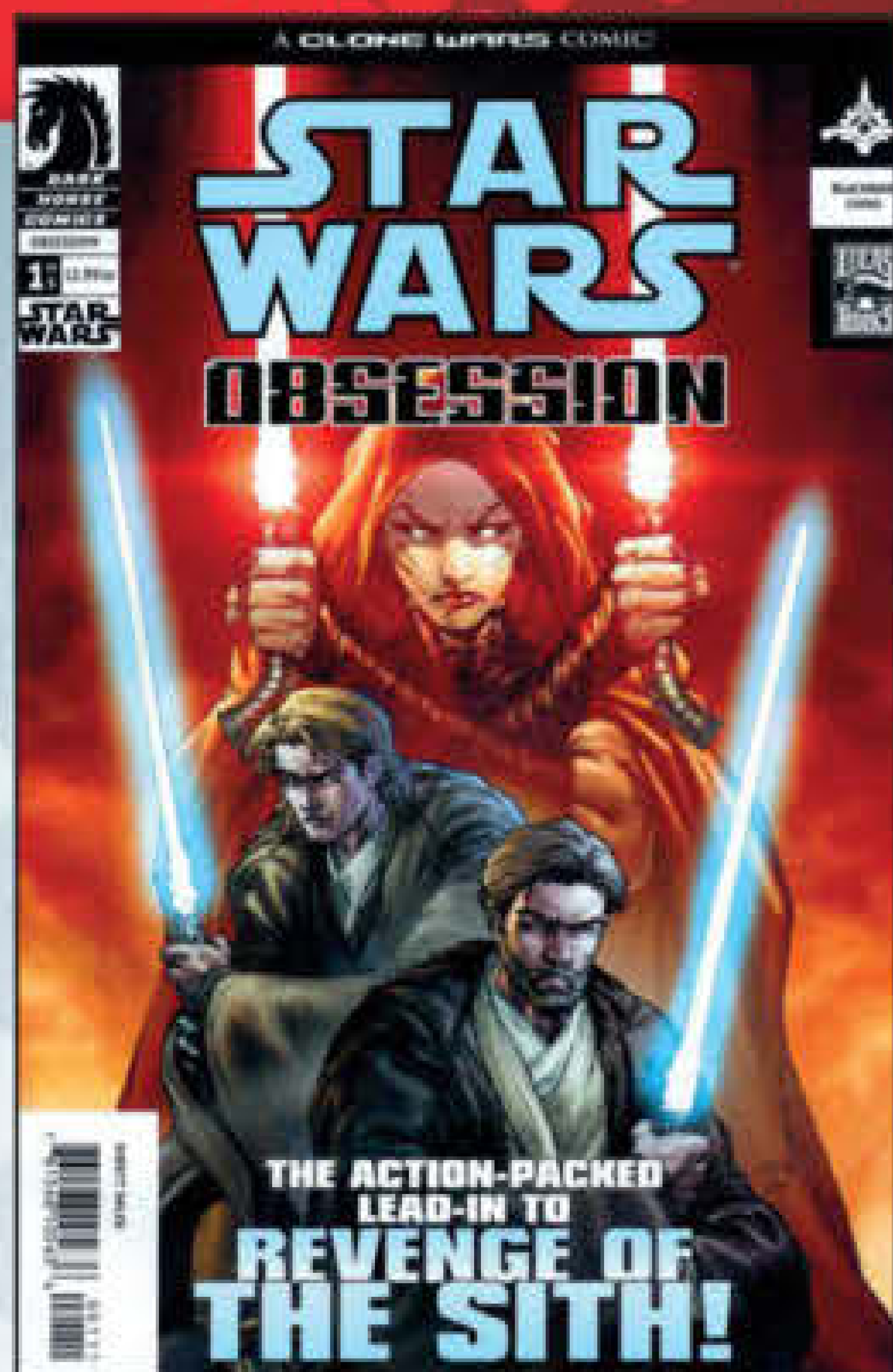
The release of the prequel trilogy did not stop Dark Horse from continuing to push the boundaries of *Star Wars* in their second decade of having the license. There was room for *Star Wars* stories that fell outside the timeline, yet were so creative and original they deserved publication. The short story anthology, *Star Wars Tales*, provided a venue for such work, where writers and artists weren't limited by continuity, and could pit Darth Vader versus Darth Maul, or relate the adventures of another astromech from the Jawa salvage line, R5-D4, also known as "Skippy, the Jedi Droid."

Anthologies weren't the only arena for fresh, experimental approaches to *Star Wars* storytelling. Dark Horse even had fun with the original trilogy itself in *Star Wars Infinities*, which devised an alternate storyline for each of

the films in classic Marvel "What If?" fashion. Then in 2006, Dark Horse's *Star Wars Legacy* fast-forwarded 130 years from *A New Hope*, imagining a future era where Imperials could be Jedi and a Skywalker could be a bounty hunter. But perhaps the most innovative *Star Wars* series Dark Horse ever published was the recently completed *The*

Star Wars, an adaptation of George Lucas's 1974 rough draft for the first film by writer J. W. Rinzler and artist Mike Mayhew.

How did Dark Horse manage to keep producing popular *Star Wars* books over two decades? "My feeling is that much of our success came from two things," Stradley says. "The first was that we were able to surprise readers with new concepts and fresh venues. I believe that Dark Horse's ability to surprise and excite readers with new concepts was



"AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, WE TRIED TO AVOID THE SAME LOCATIONS AND SAME CONFLICTS THAT WERE SEEN IN THE FILMS."
—RANDY STRADLEY

the main reason for the unbridled success of the *Star Wars* line. As much as possible, we tried to avoid the same locations and same conflicts that were seen in the films. I think when fans pick up a comic based on a successful film franchise, part of their expectations are to see the same things they saw in the films. So, if you can surprise them and defy their expectations they feel rewarded.

"The second key to our success is kind of a corollary to the first,

and that's to give the readers real characters—characters whose motivations and desires are believable as well as understandable. It's not enough to just have archetypal characters going through the motions of playing heroes or villains, the readers have to relate to why the characters behave the way they do. Surprise their brains and play on their hearts. At its core, *Star Wars* is all about big emotions. If you leave that out, you haven't got anything."

END OF THE TRAIL

Dark Horse finishes its gallop through the galaxy of far, far away this December, after which the comics license returns to Marvel. This August marked the publication of its last regular monthly, *Star Wars Legacy*—a title that fittingly encapsulates the incredible scope, depth, and originality of Dark Horse's *Star Wars* output.

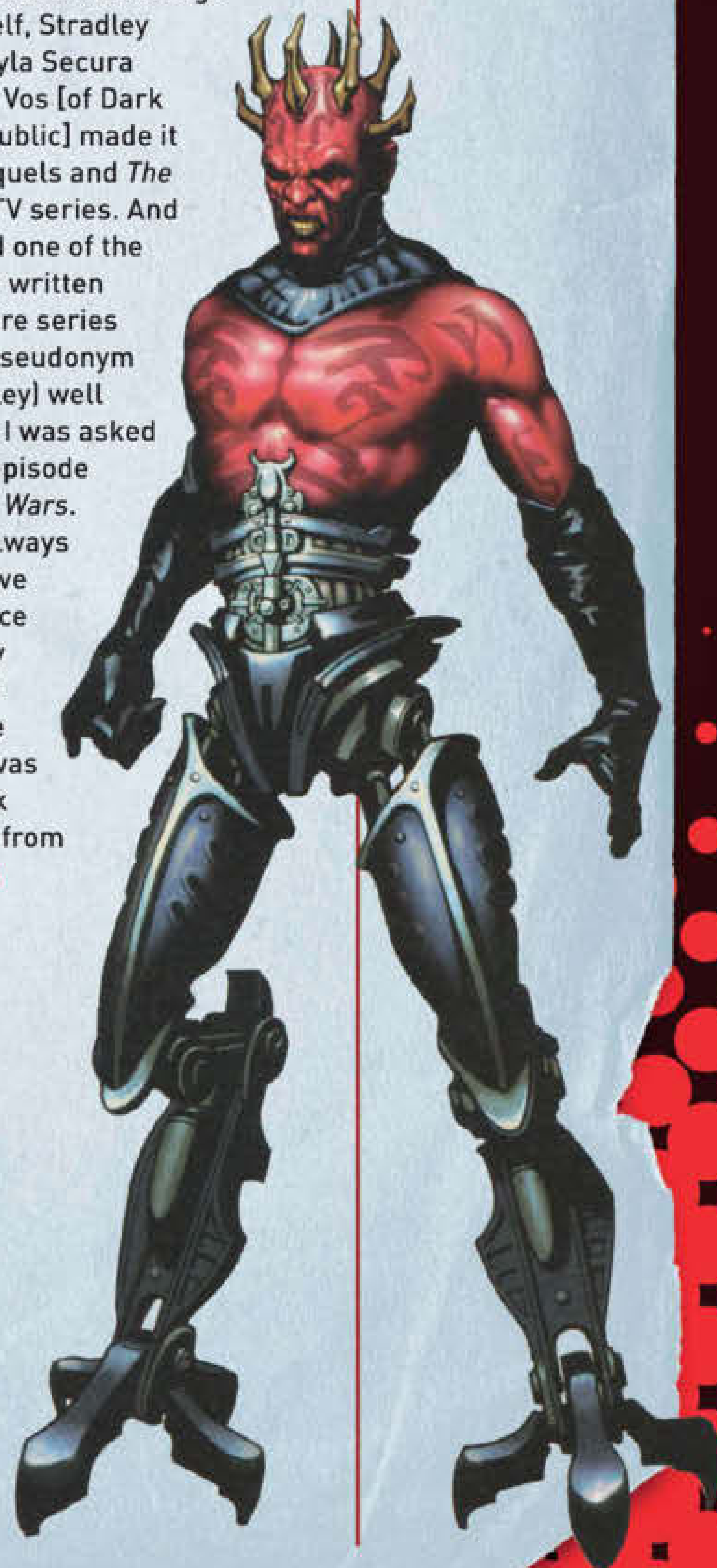
"Unfortunately, we are at the end of the trail," Richardson says. "We saw *The Star Wars* based on George's original script as a very special way to phase out. It's sad, but that's the way things go. We'll miss the franchise and the many good people we met and worked with at LucasBooks over the years."

One of those people Dark Horse impressed was George Lucas himself, Stradley reveals. "Aayla Secura and Quinlan Vos [of Dark Horse's Republic] made it into the prequels and *The Clone Wars* TV series. And George liked one of the stories I had written for the Empire series (under the pseudonym Welles Hartley) well enough that I was asked to write an episode of *The Clone Wars*."

"It was always nice to receive positive notice from the guy who created it all, but the real payoff was the feedback we received from the fans." 🗡️

Left, clockwise from top left: A diverse array of titles, including the lead-in to *Revenge of the Sith*; *Star Wars Obsession*; the Droids take center stage; John Jackson Miller's *Knight Errant*; General Grievous stars in a *Clone Wars* comic!

Below: A vengeful Darth Maul as drawn by Aaron McBride in the *Star Wars Visionaries* graphic novel story, *Old Wounds*, proved to be an inspiration for the *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* production team.





ARTIST **DAVE DORMAN** HAS BEEN A FAN-FAVORITE ILLUSTRATOR OF THE *STAR WARS* GALAXY FOR OVER 20 YEARS, BUT HE FELL IN LOVE WITH THE *STAR WARS* SAGA RIGHT FROM THE START...
INTERVIEW BY MARK NEWBOLD

1 When did you first become aware of *Star Wars*?

I first heard about *Star Wars* in a news article in *Cinefantastique* magazine, either late 1975 or sometime in 1976. It was just a small blurb, but it was interesting to me. In the winter of 1976, I saw the novelization of *Star Wars* being sold in the bookstores, so I picked it up and read it. It was a very exciting book and I thought that it would make a great movie.

2 What was your reaction to seeing *Star Wars* for the first time?

Like a lot of science fiction fans, it was great to see a really fun space adventure done seriously and with a "big budget." As a film fan, I was very excited about the special effects being state of the art at that time, and then reading later about how John Dykstra and his crew created visual effects that had never been done before.

3 Do you have a favorite scene?

My favorite scene would probably be when Luke walks out of the hut on Tatooine, stepping out onto the mound of rocks and seeing the twin suns on the horizon. The music swells up, it's a beautifully photographed scene, and it really fills you with emotion for Luke's plight.



4 Which piece of *Star Wars* artwork first captivated you?

It would have been Ralph McQuarrie's cover for the novelization that I read before the movie came out. After that, we started seeing more of his work, and there is no doubt whatsoever that *Star Wars* could not have been made without his artistic creations and designs.

5 Where did you sign your first *Star Wars* autograph?

It would have been probably within a week or two of *Dark Empire*

coming out. I did a signing at my local comic book store at that time.

6 Do you have a favorite piece of *Star Wars* merchandise?

My favorite piece is the most recent Obi-Wan Kenobi sculpture from Sideshow Collectibles, where he's dashing through the desert with all of his gear. It's a beautifully sculpted 18" figure. I nominated it for a Poppies Award.

7 Where is the strangest place you've attended a convention?

I do a library show here in Elgin, Illinois called Comicpalooza at the Gail Borden Library, and a *Star Wars* Day show at the Joliet Public Library in Joliet, Illinois (which has become the world's largest *Star Wars* library show). Those are probably the two most unusual places, but they're great places to introduce kids to the world of *Star Wars* that's larger than just movies and books.

8 Who is your favorite *Star Wars* character to paint and why?

I enjoy the *Star Wars* work I do very much, and I try to make each piece my favorite as I'm working on it, to make sure the quality is the very best I can make it.

MORE TO SAY

See more of Dave's art at www.davedorman.com

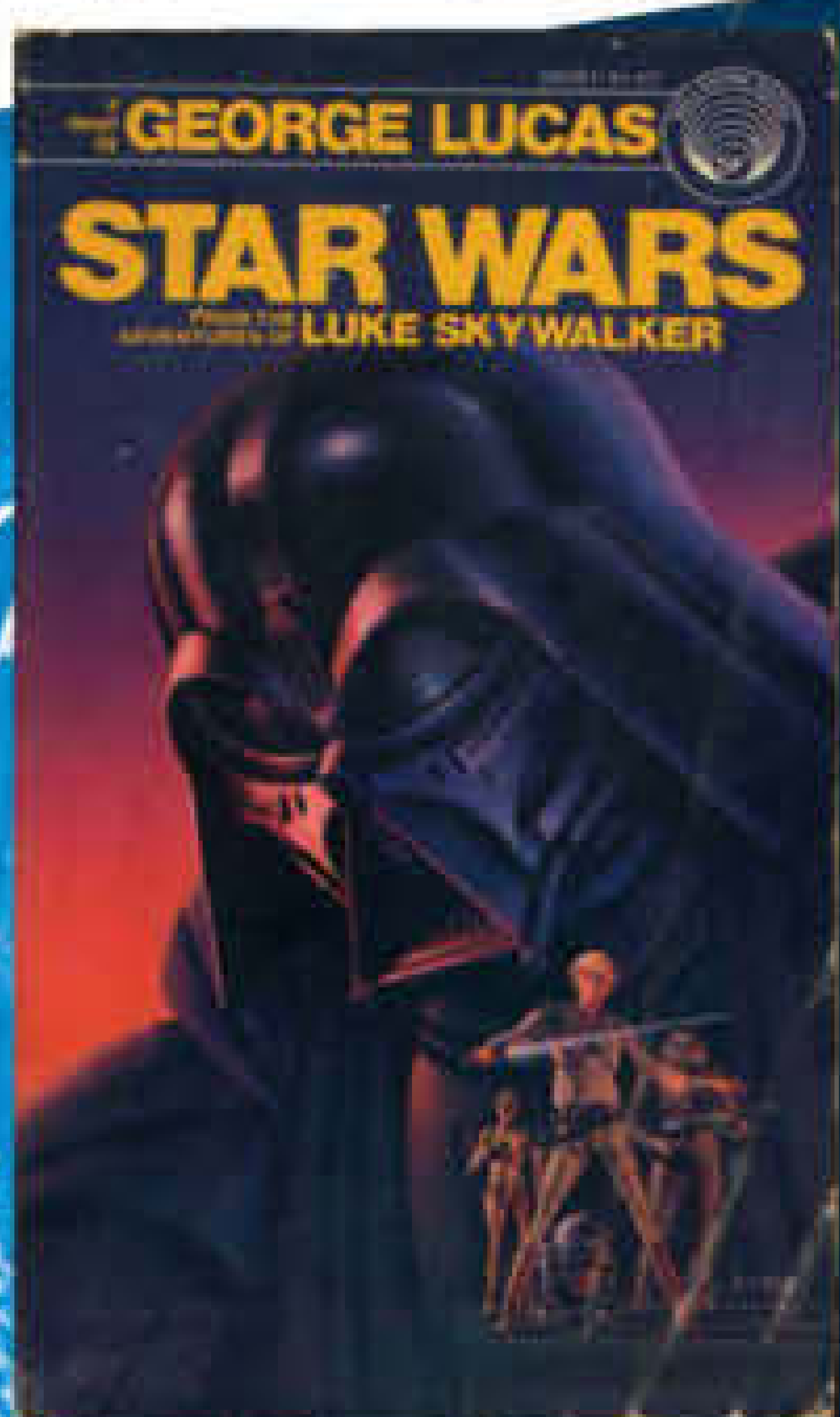
HAVE YOU?



1

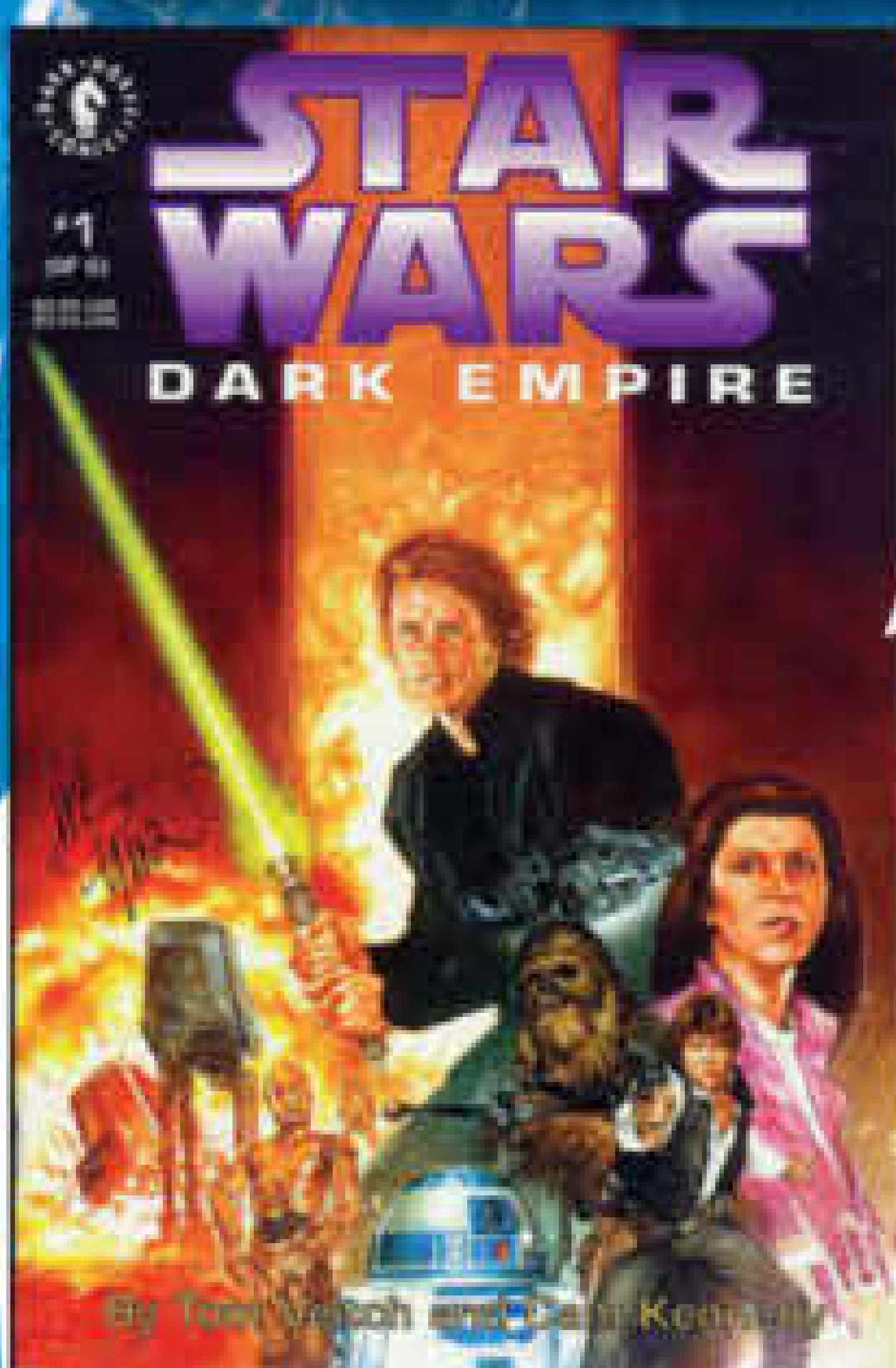


3



6

4

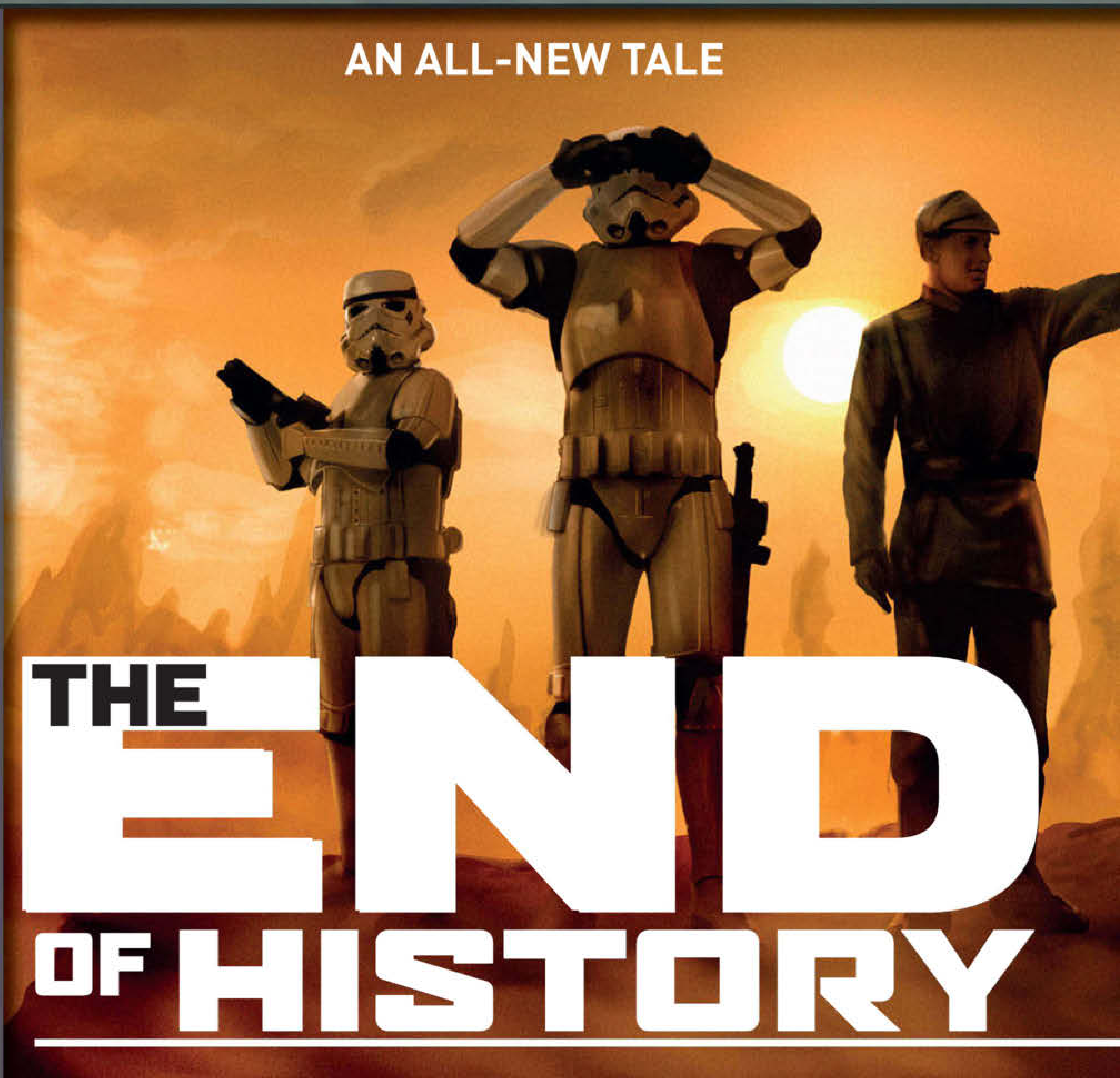


5

8



AN ALL-NEW TALE



THE END OF HISTORY

Antron didn't know much about starfighters, but he felt strongly that a wing should be attached to its vessel, not scattered in sizzling fragments across the blue scrub plains of a nameless moon. As he beat away clouds of smoke, cursing his age and protruding gut, he decided that the pilot of this particular starfighter—which had fallen blazing past the mesa Antron called home barely an hour before—was likely to agree.

He hoped it wouldn't be the *only* thing he and the pilot agreed upon, since he doubted he had the charm or the muscle to keep an irate pirate or murderous fugitive in check. But he reassured himself as best he could: "Jedi Master Vonkhel managed to befriend the Sith Lord of Gairm," he muttered. "All *you* have to do is not admit anything stupid."

As Antron approached the starfighter's cockpit, the viewplate jumped, shuddered, then rose steadily. A flight-

suited figure coated in soot, grease, and dried blood climbed out from the vessel and staggered onto the ground.

The figure's voice was sharp and strained. "I need to find Antron Bach."

Antron froze a moment, then hurried forward and saw beneath the grime a woman young enough to be his granddaughter. "I *am* Antron Bach," he said, before he noticed her hand was touching the blaster at her hip. So much, he thought, for not admitting anything stupid.

"Miru Nadrinakar," the woman said, "of the Corellian Resistance. We need to run."

Antron started to ask a question, but as he sorted through the half-dozen that came to mind he caught sight of something through the smoke—a trio of lights in the sky, winking and following a jagged path among the stars.

"TIE fighters," Miru explained. She hobbled forward and wrapped one arm around Antron's shoulders for support.



MIRU GRIPPED ANTRON HARDER AS THEY WALKED. "THE EMPIRE'S PLANNING A PURGE OF RESISTANCE CELLS. I'VE GOT A DAY TO GET TO CORELLIA AND WARN THEM."

BY ALEXANDER FREED
WITH ART BY CHRIS SCALF

She stank of sweat, and he flinched at her unexpected nearness. "Their frigate is on the other side of the system," she added, and smiled grimly. "I took out its engines. Give it three hours to get here."

Antron stumbled as Miru urged him away from the wreckage, then quickly found a rhythm as he led her across the scrub plains toward the mesa. She was limping on her right leg, and though Antron searched for a glib comment to distract her from her pain, he thought better of it when he saw the concentration in her eyes.

The winking lights overhead were growing brighter. "I've hidden from Imperial patrols before," he said, trying to sound encouraging. "We'll batten down the hatches, make them think you're wandering the wilds—"

Miru interrupted, quick and harsh. "No hiding," she said. "I need weapons and transport ASAP."

"You what?" Antron asked.

Miru gripped Antron harder as they walked. "The Empire's planning a purge of resistance cells. I've got a day to get to Corellia and warn them."

Antron's voice dropped an octave. "Let's find shelter," he said.

When they reached the shadow of the mesa and Antron turned at an angle toward the cliffside, they heard the sound of thunder. Antron hadn't seen a storm in all his years on the moon, and when Miru said "They're bombing the crash site," he nodded and searched for courage.

He reminded himself: Jedi Master Va Zhurro had spent six months caring for refugees in a basement during the Clone Wars. Antron could survive a day or two of bombardment.

At the base of the mesa, where the scrawny and twisted bushes of the scrub plains failed to scabble up the steep sides, Antron guided Miru through a crevice barely wider than his shoulders. The crevice, in turn, led to a great steel door embedded in the stone, nearly camouflaged by dust.

With a groan, Antron climbed atop a boulder. The door's rusting keypad was over two meters above the ground, and he strained to tap in the code. "Geonosians colonized this place centuries ago," he said as the door hummed open, "and left it not much later. The mesa's riddled with warrens. Only problem is, most Geonosians *fly*, and I'm not a tall man."

Miru said nothing as Antron returned to her side. He sighed and led her down a tunnel and into the vault.

In a great cavern supported by bare metal beams stood rack after rack of winking, glowing data cartridges that brought a sparkle to the dusty air. In-between the racks were long tables piled with curious artifacts: handwritten parchments and sets of silverware shared equal prominence with delicately etched crystalline cubes and a six-fingered cybernetic hand. Some of the objects had been well-preserved and polished, while others were spotted with rust or stains Antron had failed to prevent.

"What is all this?" Miru asked.

"This," Antron said, with a soft smile and a flick of his hand, "is what's left of the Jedi of the Old Republic."

Miru shook her head, then stepped forward, walking unsteadily around the racks.

Antron went on. "You're looking at generations of history: journals and temple archives and philosophy tracts. Broken lightsabers and thises and thats. Proof of a better world. Everything the Empire wants us to forget."

Miru turned back to Antron, her eyes wide. "Are you..?"

Antron peered back at her, then realized what she was asking and laughed. "I'm not a Jedi, no. I sold *antiques* before the dark times. I made Jedi friends because you get better prices when you drink with your clients... even if you're only drinking tea."

For an instant, Antron remembered the good days, laughing with smugglers or academics or archaeologists in a Coruscant cantina; appraising trinkets or swapping tales with Padawans. He missed drinking. He missed *talking*.

He ran a hand through what was left of his hair. "When it all went south, and Master Uvell asked me to help..." He smiled wryly. "You know he called me a huckster once? Wasn't nice about it, either, but he gave me a ship, loaded up all the artifacts we could find and told me about this place."



He must have been desperate.”

Miru didn’t say anything. Antron found himself compelled to fill the silence. “I’ve been here ever since. Not a smart call on my part, but I didn’t much like the look of the Empire and I didn’t have the heart to say ‘no’ to a war hero like Uvell—”

“Your name and coordinates were in an old resistance file. Your Jedi must have passed them along,” Miru said.

She lifted a charred fragment of metal from one table and turned it over in her hands—the last of the Chronicles of Med’eeth, salvaged from the ruins of Ossus before Antron had been born.

“I don’t know much about them,” she said. “I was a kid when they died.”

“That’s why I’m here,” Antron said, his voice softening. “When the Empire finally

falls—a hundred or a thousand years from now—the galaxy will have a lot to relearn. The Jedi were the best of us, and I want their stories preserved.”

Miru rubbed her thumb against the charred metal.

“People deserve a history and heroes they can look up to,” Antron continued. “That’s why I can’t help you race off to Corellia. If the Imperials see a ship launch—”

“They’ll know there’s a base here. The Empire will find you and burn everything.”

“Yes,” Antron said.

Miru tossed the metal fragment back to the table and the sound rang through the cavern. She straightened, winced at the noise or her injuries, and looked at Antron. “Then I’m sorry,” she said. “I’m not here to jeopardize your mission. But the resistance takes priority over—” She waved

**BREATH-MASKED
RESIDENTS SCURRIED FOR COVER
AS THE GUNSHIP RACED OVER
GLASS-LITTERED AVENUES, PAST
BOARDED-UP STOREFRONTS,
TOPPLED MONUMENTS,
AND GLOOMY CANTINAS.**



a hand at the fragment.
"—stories."

They stood and watched each other awhile.

Then Antron snorted and forced a smile. "Well," he said, "you can head back to your ship if you like. Otherwise, we can work together—for now—to save our own lives."

Miru merely scowled.

Antron added with a shrug: "You're no good to the resistance dead."

"The good news," Antron told Miru as they crept through cramped tunnels leading higher into the mesa, "is that the colony warrens are pretty sturdy. Hard to spot, too. The bombers shouldn't be a problem."

"And the bad news?"

Miru asked.

"As soon as that Imperial frigate gets close, even the most dimwitted bridge officer will detect the colony power generator. We need to shut it down, or it won't be long before the vault is discovered and the frigate atomizes this whole mesa. Bad for us, regardless of your *priorities*."

Antron went on. "No generator means no light, no water, and no filtered air. We'll be miserable while we hide, but your pursuers will eventually write you off as lost or dead in the scrub plains. Marooned without allies."

"By then," Miru said flatly, "it'll be too late to save the resistance."

Antron didn't reply to that. The thought made his chest ache, but what could he do? Instead he shrugged and added, "There's more bad news."

The generator was near the top of the mesa, he explained, in the colony's old industrial center; now it only housed a few aging machines and Antron's rickety ship. The tunnels would get them partway there, but circumventing the Geonosians' vertical shafts meant a detour onto the cliffsides. "Unless," he added, "you're hiding wings under that flight suit."

As clouds of dust swirled and the bombs rumbled, Antron and Miru emerged onto a path halfway up the mesa and began to hike a bramble-ridden slope toward their goal. "Give it two hours until the frigate arrives," Miru said softly.

"Time enough," Antron replied, fearing it wasn't.

As they walked, stopping only to lie flat whenever a TIE fighter shrieked into view, Antron found himself humming fragments of an old Bith opera: the story of a Jedi Knight who had returned to save his people after journeying across the

stars. Since Antron had come to his moon, his musical options had been limited; yet he'd grown fond of the Song of Lojuun.

Miru had been scowling, limping behind Antron and scanning the horizon for signs of their foe. But the more elaborate Antron's off-key humming became the more she began to smile, until finally she let out a hoarse laugh. "You're awfully cheerful," she said, as they crested the top of the slope.

"Petrified, too," Antron said. "But the Jedi say fear leads to suffering, so I try to busy my mind."

"When you live under the Empire, you *learn* to fear."

"Maybe that's why so many people—" Antron began, before Miru's hand struck between his shoulders, pushing him to his knees. For an instant, Antron wondered if he'd misjudged her—if she'd decided to get rid of him and take her chances alone.

A second later, Miru lay prone at his side, and Antron felt shame at his doubt.

Together, they looked ahead onto the flat top of the mesa. Less than fifty meters away, four figures—three armored in white, one in a black Imperial officer's uniform—prowled the edge of the cliff carrying rangefinders and macrobinoculars.

Miru spoke in a soft, clipped voice. "Search coordinators. I thought they'd set up at the crash site. They must have wanted altitude. They'll keep watch while more troops search the ground."

"They're practically *standing* on the hatch to the generator," Antron breathed. "It's concealed, but if they find it..."

"We need a new plan," Miru said. "Can you get us offworld?"

Antron shook his head. "I've got a ship, but it's barely lightspeed-capable. That frigate won't have any trouble shooting it down."

Miru squeezed his shoulder. "We'll figure it out. No other choice. Lead on."

But Antron didn't move. "If we run, they'll detect the colony and destroy the vault!" he insisted. "Wait for those four to leave; then get in the hatch and shut that generator down."

"They're not going to *leave*," Miru said. "Where's your ship?"

Instead of replying, Antron rose to his feet and began to run along the mesa's top. His legs shook as he waved his arms frantically at the stormtroopers and shouted, "You're here! Thank the stars you're here!"

You're already an eccentric old fool, Antron thought to himself. Just look the part, and you'll be fine.

The stormtroopers trained their weapons on him. "This is my moon," Antron hastily explained. "I saw the crash—a *pirate* attacked me. She ran off! I'll show you!" He flailed vaguely toward the dry forests beyond the scrub plains.

Two of the stormtroopers turned to speak to the officer. The third kept his weapon leveled at Antron.

Finally, one of the troopers—Antron couldn't tell which—raised his voice. "Get on the ground. This moon is supposed to be unoccupied."

Antron lowered himself to his knees and tried to keep babbling about pirates even as he ran out of fresh things to say. But he could make this work, he thought. He didn't need a Jedi mind trick to direct the search away from the mesa. He only hoped Miru would follow his instructions.

She could turn off the generator. She could hide. And Antron could find her once he convinced the stormtroopers that he was just some crazed hermit and that she'd run off to the forests or been disintegrated by a bomb blast.

Unless, of course, Miru stole his ship and exposed the colony anyway.

Antron heard boots crunch on brittle grass, then the crack and hiss of a plasma bolt. He cried out in instinctive panic and clenched the rocky ground.

Then there was another shot. A third.

He scrambled backward, scraping his palms on stone chips and keeping his nose to the dirt. By the time he'd crawled behind a boulder that passed for cover, the shooting had stopped.

Raising his head, Antron saw the four Imperials sprawled on the ground, flames licking burnt holes in their outfits.

"Your plan was stupid," a voice called. He turned to see Miru limping toward him, her blaster in her hand. "They would've killed you and stayed right here."

Antron stood and stared, sputtering sounds that didn't quite form words. Miru scowled, moving to Antron's side and leaning on him again.

"They won't need to search anymore," she said, and Antron realized she was correct. The screaming of the TIE fighters had suddenly grown louder.

The closest bomb detonated less than a hundred meters away, deafening and blinding Antron. For those few, terrifying seconds, Miru kept moving, tugging Antron along with a strength she surely should have lost during the crash.

But the TIEs didn't seem to spot them. Antron's dazed mind struggled to understand before it snapped to a conclusion: The Empire assumed Miru had killed the landing party, and was bombing her last known position.

They still didn't know about Antron or the vault.

By the time Antron and Miru descended through a hatch into the colony's industrial tunnels, Antron's skin was caked in a paste formed from sweat and dust. Miru watched him as he leaned against a rock wall riddled with metal pipes and dim yellow lamps. She was sweating worse than he was, and at some point—during the fight or the bombing, if not hours earlier—she'd developed a cut in her left arm. Blood trickled into her palm.

"Thank you," Antron said. "For saving my life. Several times."

Miru shrugged. "Who'll take over this place if you're blown to bits?"

Antron smiled grimly. "If they blow me up, this place is next."

The tunnels quaked and metal wailed in the distance as something came untethered. Miru took Antron's arm and began walking again. "My father was a historian," she said.

Antron shook his head, trying to follow her logic.

Miru kept talking. "He believed in the Jedi. Believed in the Republic. Before the Empire got to him."

She didn't look at Antron. "I don't remember life before the Empire," she said. "I don't know whether your cave full of stories counts for anything. I can't."

They reached a branch in the tunnel, and Miru halted, waiting for Antron to take the lead. "But you believe in this stuff. You almost died for it. If you say your mission takes priority... we can do it your way."

Antron watched Miru in surprise, watched her stand as straight as she could

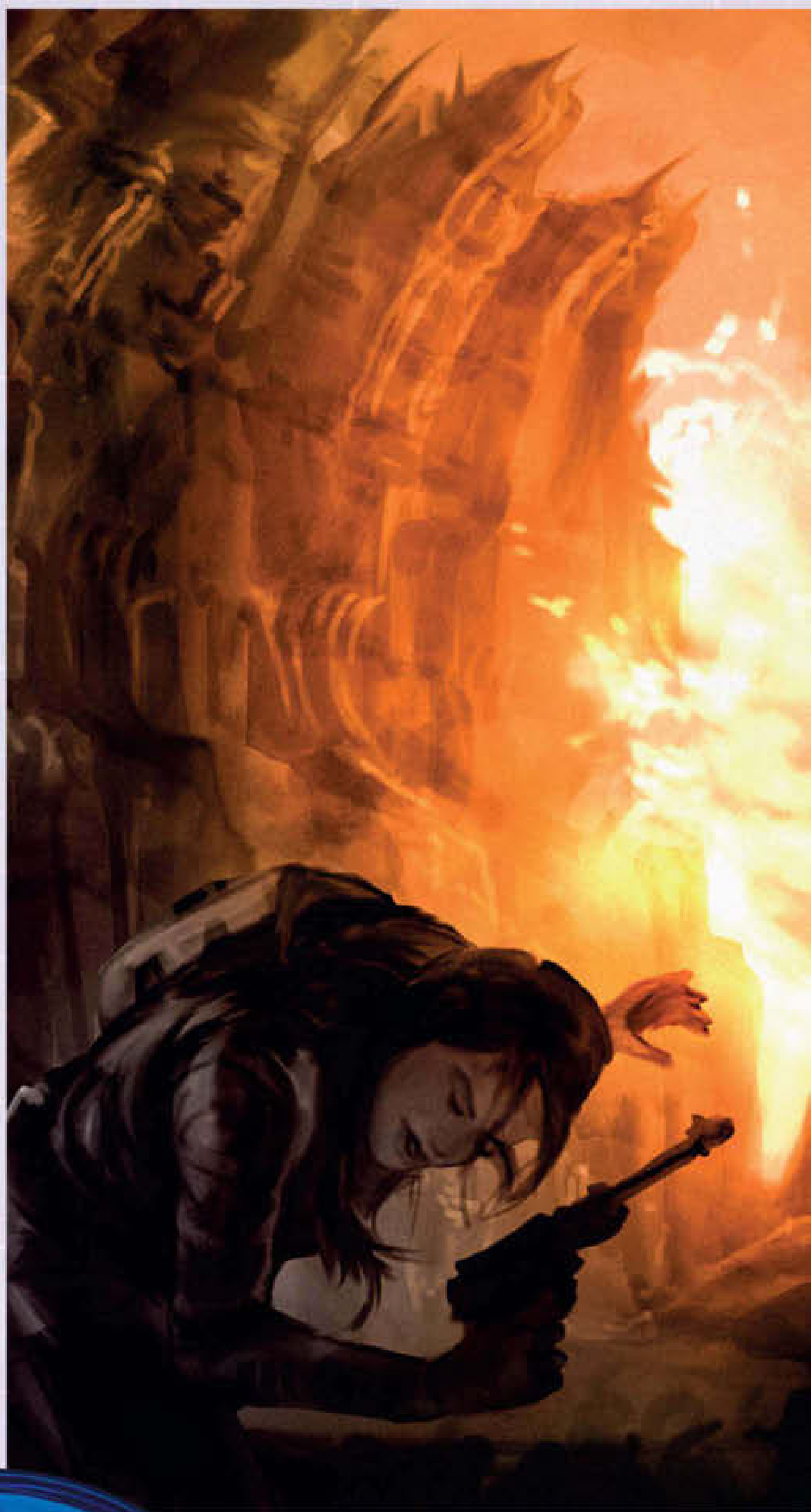
ANTRON WATCHED MIRU IN SURPRISE, WATCHED HER STAND AS STRAIGHT AS SHE COULD DESPITE HER EXHAUSTION AND BRUISES AND CUTS, WAITING FOR ORDERS WITHOUT A WORD OF COMPLAINT.

despite her exhaustion and bruises and cuts, waiting for orders without a word of complaint.

He listened to a dim, distant rumble and thought of the Jedi Padawan Nes Ukul, who'd given his life protecting a species whose language he didn't speak on a planet whose name he didn't know.

It was Ukul's Master who'd said, "There is no more selfless act than to perish for another's cause."

Antron swallowed, considered praising Miru, thanking her, and decided against it. She didn't seem to need comfort, and he didn't have the dignity to spare.





a ship out of the mesa and off the moon.

There was also the Imperial frigate. He'd need to distract it to give Miru any chance of escaping the system intact. For this, Antron didn't have a plan so much as a grab-bag of stalling tactics: The "confused old man" routine; maybe a fake message from the search party. Somewhere, the colony even had a few weapons waiting to be turned on; with luck, they might be functional.

Antron tapped a command into the workstation, then fumbled through a crate, looking for the colony schematics.

As he dragged a tool chest over to a third console and sat down with a sigh, he wondered whether Miru would understand what had changed his mind.

He thought of all the Jedi whose stories he'd read, their noble deeds and ends. Miru didn't need their inspiration—she'd learned nobility even under the Empire's boot. And she'd reminded him of the ideals he'd wanted to protect.

Sacrificing the vault would be a tragedy. Sacrificing the resistance—sacrificing tough and courageous men and women who struggled every day—didn't seem like a very Jedi thing to do.

Jedi died for *people* above *things*.

Antron was humming again as he scrubbed dust off a screen with his sleeve and saw that his ship had been powered on. Miru had taken the hint.

The generator room rumbled, metal supports shrieking like TIE fighters, as another bomb struck.

"You take the left, and I'll take the right," he said. "There's a backup generator you need to shut down while I handle the primary."

Miru frowned. "Can you make it on your own?" she asked.

Antron flapped a hand dismissively. "I'm old and fat, but I can walk down a hallway. Shoo!"

Miru limped into the darkness. Antron turned on his heel and headed down a narrow corridor, emerging into a chamber lined with consoles and cluttered with crates and toolboxes. The generator hummed comfortingly under the floor, and after surveying his surroundings he wiped his brow and set to work.

He thought about Miru, and how in a few moments she'd arrive in the hangar bay and realize he'd lied about the backup generator. He'd have to seal her inside in case she tried to turn back and find him. After that, he could power the bay doors so she could get his heap of

He switched to scanners, watched them blink as the Imperial frigate came into orbit around his moon. He cracked his knuckles, tried not to think about the vault. He had a job to do. One way or another, Miru would get away clean.

And maybe if he was fortunate—if the Force was with him—the vault would survive after all. If the mesa collapsed under a barrage of plasma, some enterprising researcher might dig up the rubble in a century or two. And if Antron somehow *survived* the ordeal, well...

He laughed as he remembered one last story and one last lesson: Jedi might sacrifice themselves, but they never give up hope. ☹

MORE TO SAY

For more information on Del Rey Books please visit star-wars.suvudu.com

HAVE YOU?

GET STARTED HERE! NEW STORIES!

15
STUNNING
ISSUES PER
SERIES –
EVERY
YEAR!

BBC
**DOCTOR
WHO**

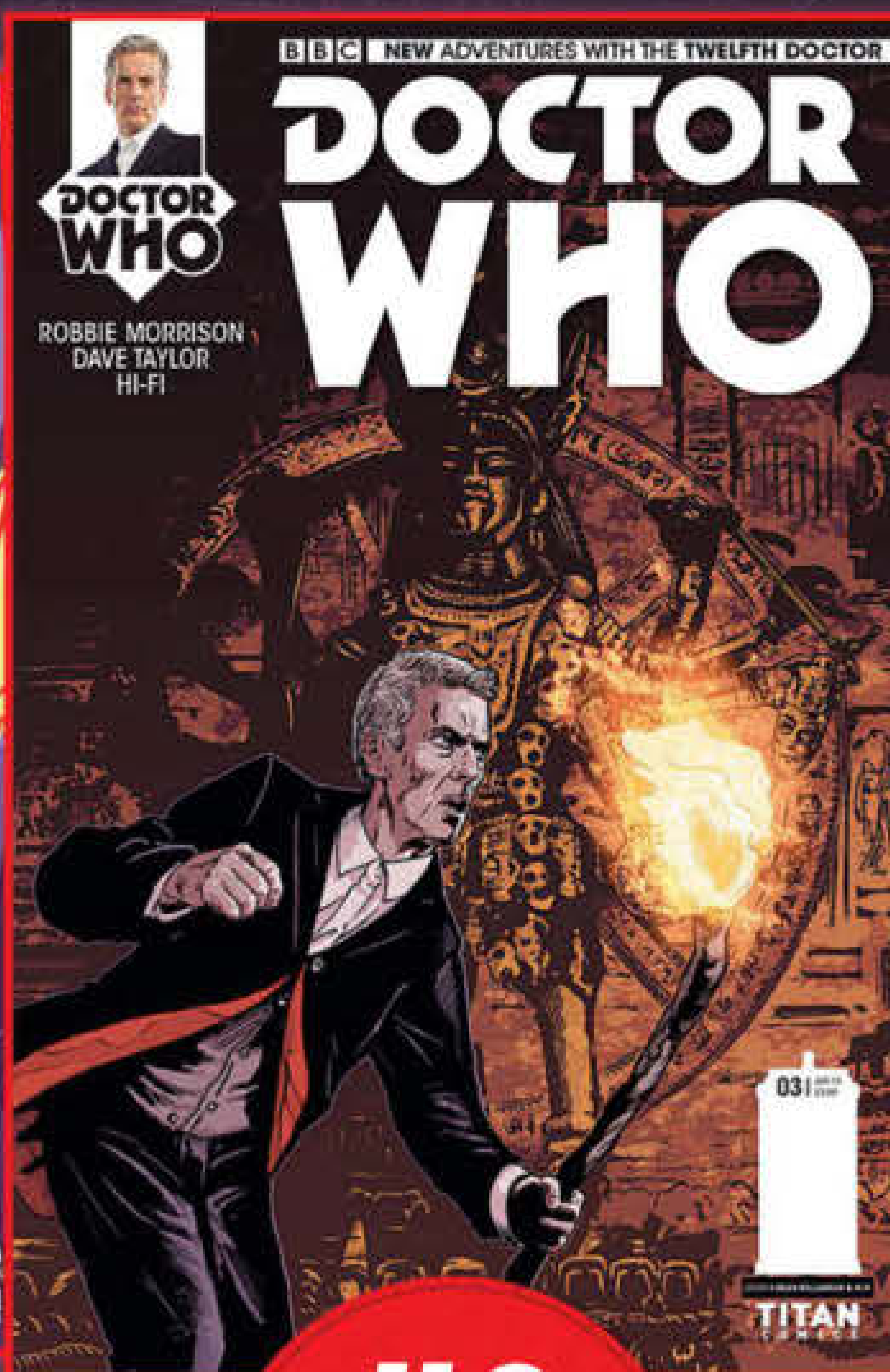
ALSO
AVAILABLE
DIGITALLY
WORLDWIDE!



#5
ON SALE
10TH DEC

**THE TENTH
DOCTOR**

WRITTEN BY NICK ABADZIS
ART BY ELENA CASAGRANDE



#3
ON SALE
17TH DEC

**THE TWELFTH
DOCTOR**

WRITTEN BY ROBBIE MORRISON
ART BY DAVE TAYLOR



#5
ON SALE
NOW

**THE ELEVENTH
DOCTOR**

WRITTEN BY AL EWING
ART BY BOO COOK



SUBSCRIBE TO ALL 3 SERIES!

TO CHECK OUT OUR SUBSCRIPTION OFFERS, VISIT:

WWW.TITAN-COMICS.COM

Doctor Who, the Daleks, the Cybermen, TARDIS and all other characters and logos are trade marks of the BBC and used under licence unless otherwise indicated.



BEN'S BARROOM BUST-UP!

WORDS: NEIL EDWARDS

WHY IT'S A CLASSIC

Among other influences, *Star Wars* has always had an element of the Western to it, from its gun—or blaster—slinging to its bounty hunters to the frontier-style setting of Tatooine. In this scene, we see the *Star Wars* version of an archetypal element of a Western—when the heroes step into a sleazy saloon, only for trouble to break out when the locals don't take kindly to their presence. It's clear from the moment when our heroes first enter the Cantina and surly bartender Wuher orders Luke's droids out, that Obi-Wan's warning to Luke that the place is "a little rough" may be an understatement.

Although Ben may know his way around this kind of environment, Luke is the plucky but still rather green farmboy, so of course he's the one who gets into trouble with the the hostile Ponda Baba and the downright hideous Dr. Cornelius Evazan.

It's left to Ben to save his young friend, which he does in style. We see in this scene that Ben isn't just a crazy old man, but rather a cool and fearsome warrior. After Ben uses his lightsaber, the Cantina's customers keep their distance with a hushed reverence, knowing that he isn't someone to be messed with. The Jedi are largely a memory by this point in galactic history, but the customers would surely have some idea of what they were seeing. Perhaps the Emperor's demonization of the Jedi would make them more respected by the underworld



rank and file. The scene also marks the first time we actually see a lightsaber being used in a fight, and what a fearsome weapon it could be in the right hands.

Ironically though, for all Ben's warnings about the Cantina's rough customers, it's Ben himself who cuts someone's arm off and Han who blasts a bounty hunter at his table. Perhaps someone should have warned the other customers about *them*!

STAR WARS LEGENDS

In the *Star Wars Holiday Special*, it was shown that while Wuher may have been the day bartender at Chalmun's Cantina, the night bartender was the far more amenable Ackmena (played by actress Bea Arthur). Perhaps if Ackmena had been on duty, R2-D2 and C-3PO might have been more welcome!

ESSENTIAL TRIVIA

If you look at the drinks dispensers on the bar behind the actors, you may recognize them—they're Rolls Royce Derwent jet engine burners, one of which was used as the head of the droid bounty hunter IG-88 in *Star Wars: Episode V The Empire Strikes Back*.

WHAT THEY SAID...

"Luke is like Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*. They both are characters people look at to see how they react to things. They are simple, naïve characters. All they want is a little adventure." —Mark Hamill (Luke Skywalker), *Star Wars Insider Special Edition*, 2011



DIGITAL EDITION

SAVE UP
TO 20%!



Get the current issue, back issues or subscribe and save up to 20%! Search for '*Star Wars Insider*' in your app store.

Visit: WWW.TITANMAGAZINES.COM/DIGITAL



THE LATEST PREVIEWS, FAN ACTIVITY, AND MORE!



BLASTER



72 BOUNTY HUNTERS

Meet the stars, show the evidence, win the bounty!

74 BANTHA TRACKS

By the fans, for the fans!

66 INCOMING
THE LATEST *STAR WARS*
GEAR YOU'LL WANT IN
YOUR COLLECTION!



60 PUBLISHING KANAN'S TALE

STAR WARS REBELS' ROGUE JEDI
MAKES HIS COMIC BOOK DEBUT.

"THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A GOOD BLASTER AT YOUR SIDE, KID."



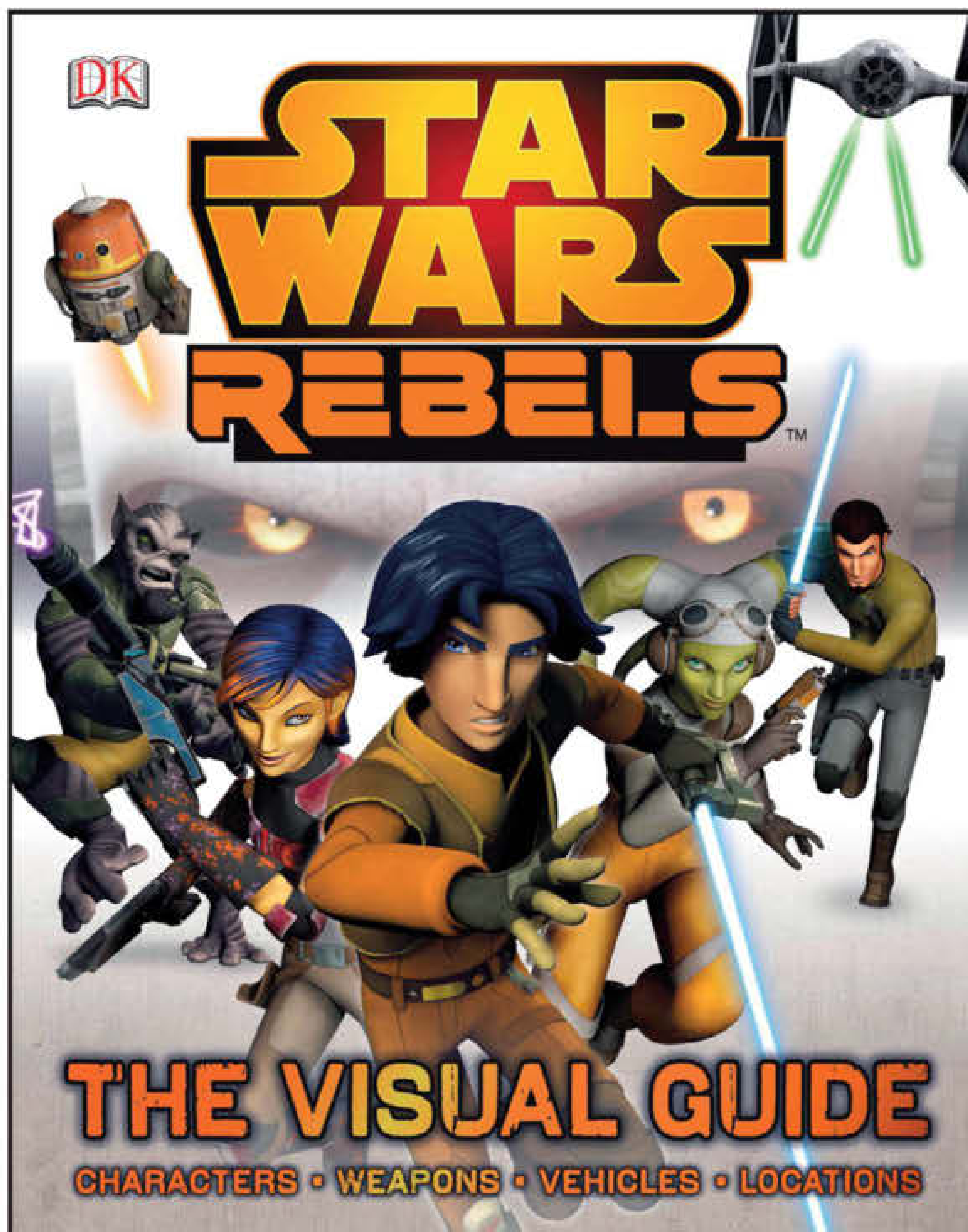
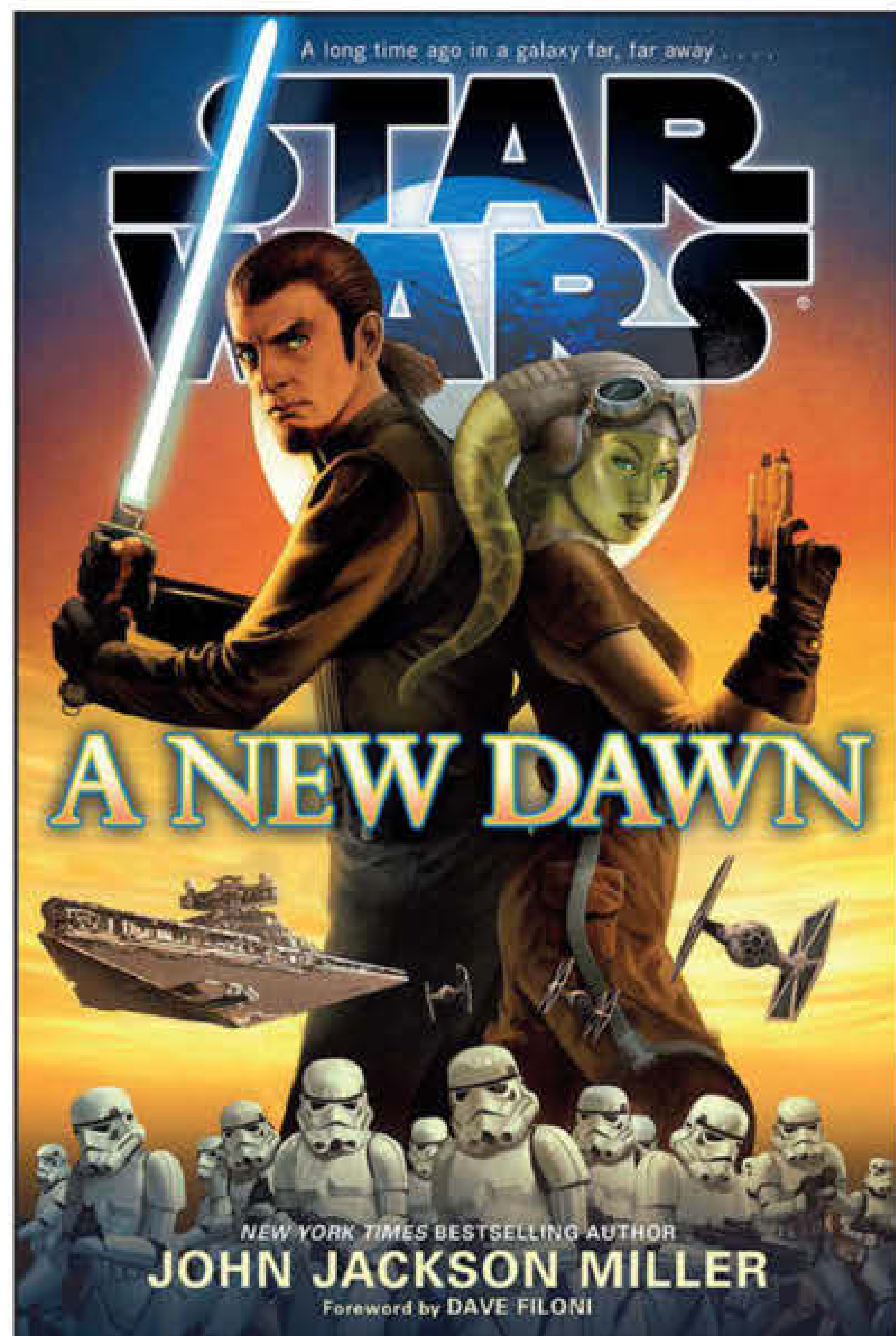
PUBLISHING

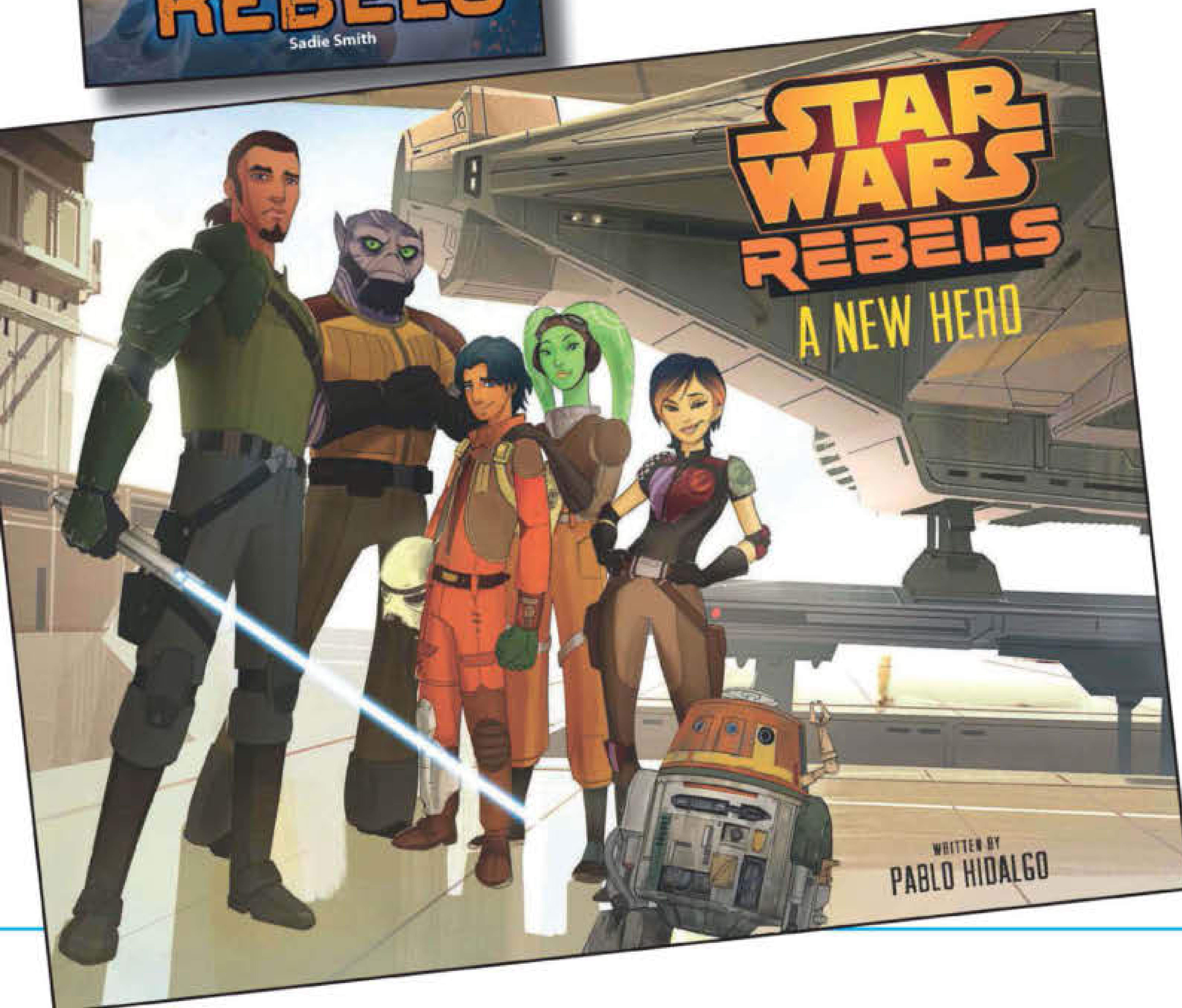
THE LATEST FROM THE WORLD OF *STAR WARS* PUBLISHING! WORDS: DAN WALLACE

A REBEL HOLIDAY

CELEBRATE THE SEASON THE *STAR WARS* WAY WITH REBELS BOOKS FOR ALL AGES!

The animated series *Star Wars Rebels* is the biggest thing in the galaxy right now, so why not turn the *Star Wars* fan in your life into a *Rebels* reader? In this holiday roundup you'll find all the titles you need, starring every character from Ezra to the Inquisitor.





Star Wars Rebels: The Visual Guide (DK): The encyclopedic companion to the TV series is heavily illustrated with key scenes and iconic moments. Writer Adam Bray details all the facts and figures about the characters, weapons, vehicles, and planets of *Star Wars Rebels* in this 128-page guidebook.

Star Wars Rebels: The Rebellion Begins (Disney Lucasfilm Press): This 176-page junior novelization is a perfect introduction to the saga for young readers ages 8-12. Adapted by Michael Kogge, *The Rebellion Begins* takes readers through the introductory episodes as Lothal street kid Ezra Bridger signs up with the rebel crew of the *Ghost*.

Star Wars Rebels: Meet the Rebels (DK): This Level 2 reader is designed for kids aged 6-8. By introducing the crew and explaining their struggle, this 32-page adventure blasts new readers off on an adventure.

Star Wars Rebels: Rise of the Rebels (Disney Lucasfilm Press): Young adults will appreciate this 128-page chapter book, adapted by Michael Kogge and introducing Ezra, Kanan, Hera, Sabine, Zeb, and their trusty droid Chopper. Full-color images bring the action to life.

Star Wars: A New Dawn (Del Rey): The first *Star Wars* novel created in collaboration with the Lucasfilm Story Group, *A New Dawn* tells the story of how ex-Jedi Kanan Jarrus and ace pilot Hera Syndulla first joined up. This original tale by John Jackson Miller weighs in at 400 pages and features a foreword by *Star Wars Rebels* executive producer Dave Filoni.

Star Wars Rebels: A New Hero (Disney Lucasfilm Press): Featuring lush artwork from the *Star Wars Rebels* animation team, this 48-page storybook by Pablo Hidalgo is appropriate both for ages 6-8 and for any adult fan who appreciates the art of animation.

Star Wars Rebels: Ezra's Wookiee Rescue (Disney Lucasfilm Press): A read-along storybook packaged with a CD, this adventure by Meredith Rusu retells how Ezra overcame his reluctance to participate in a daring rescue of Wookiee prisoners. The CD features authentic sound effects and character voices, alongside word-for-word narration.

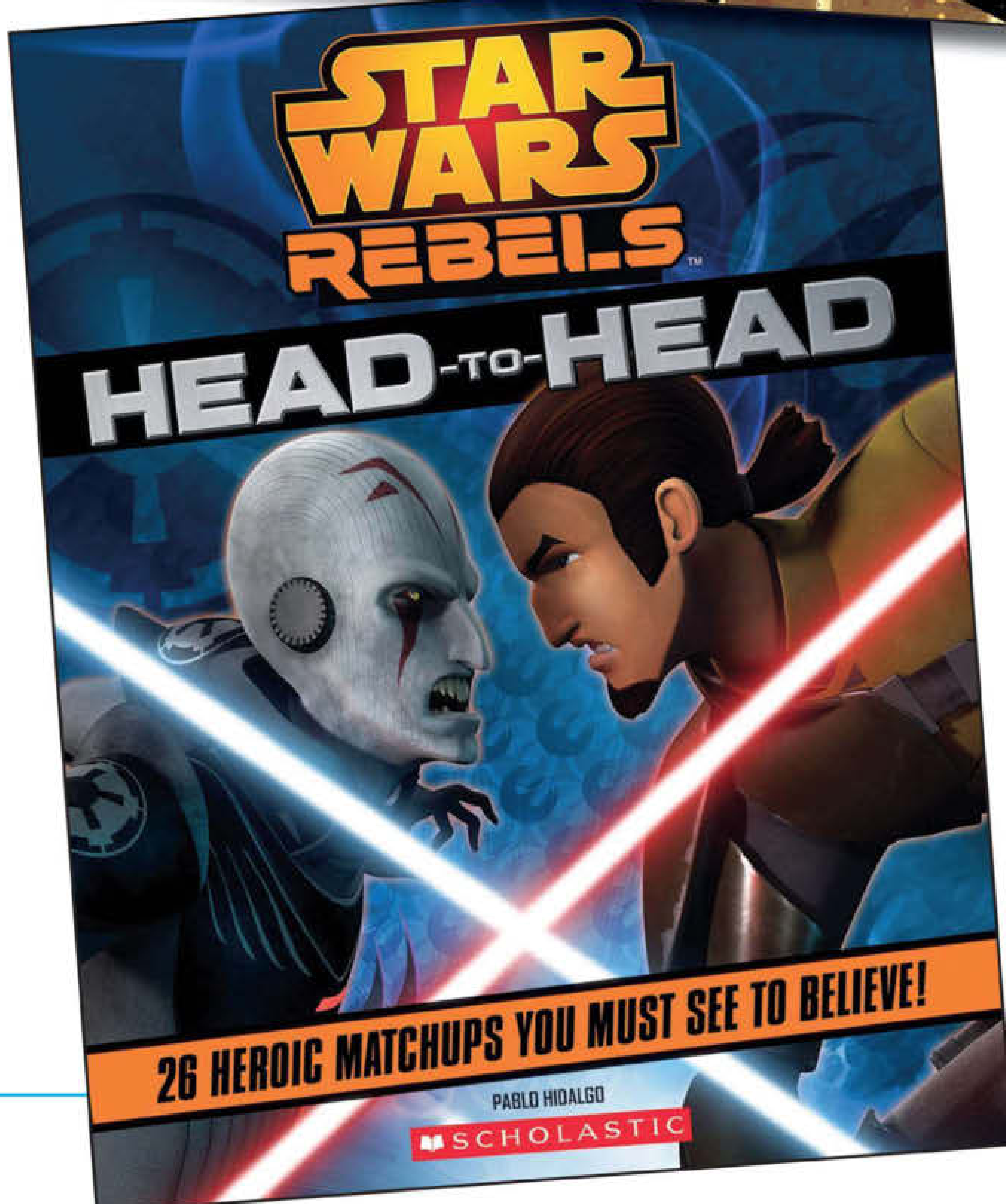
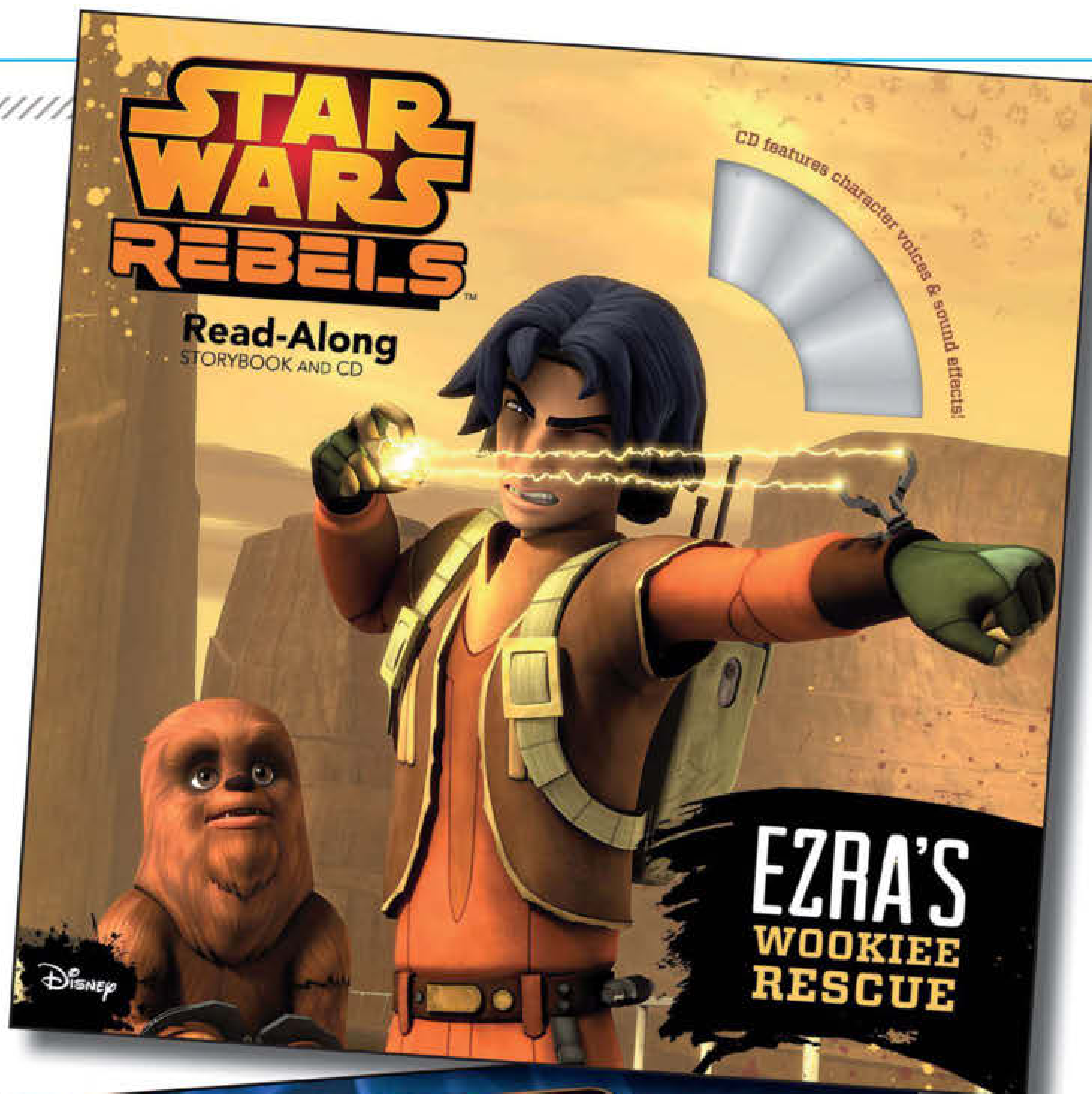
Star Wars Rebels: Head to Head (Scholastic): Everything's possible in this 64-page book by Pablo Hidalgo, which imagines duels between the heroes and villains of the *Star Wars Rebels* universe. By comparing the stats of each combatant's gear, weapons, and fighting strategies, readers can take a ringside seat for the wildest duels ever staged.

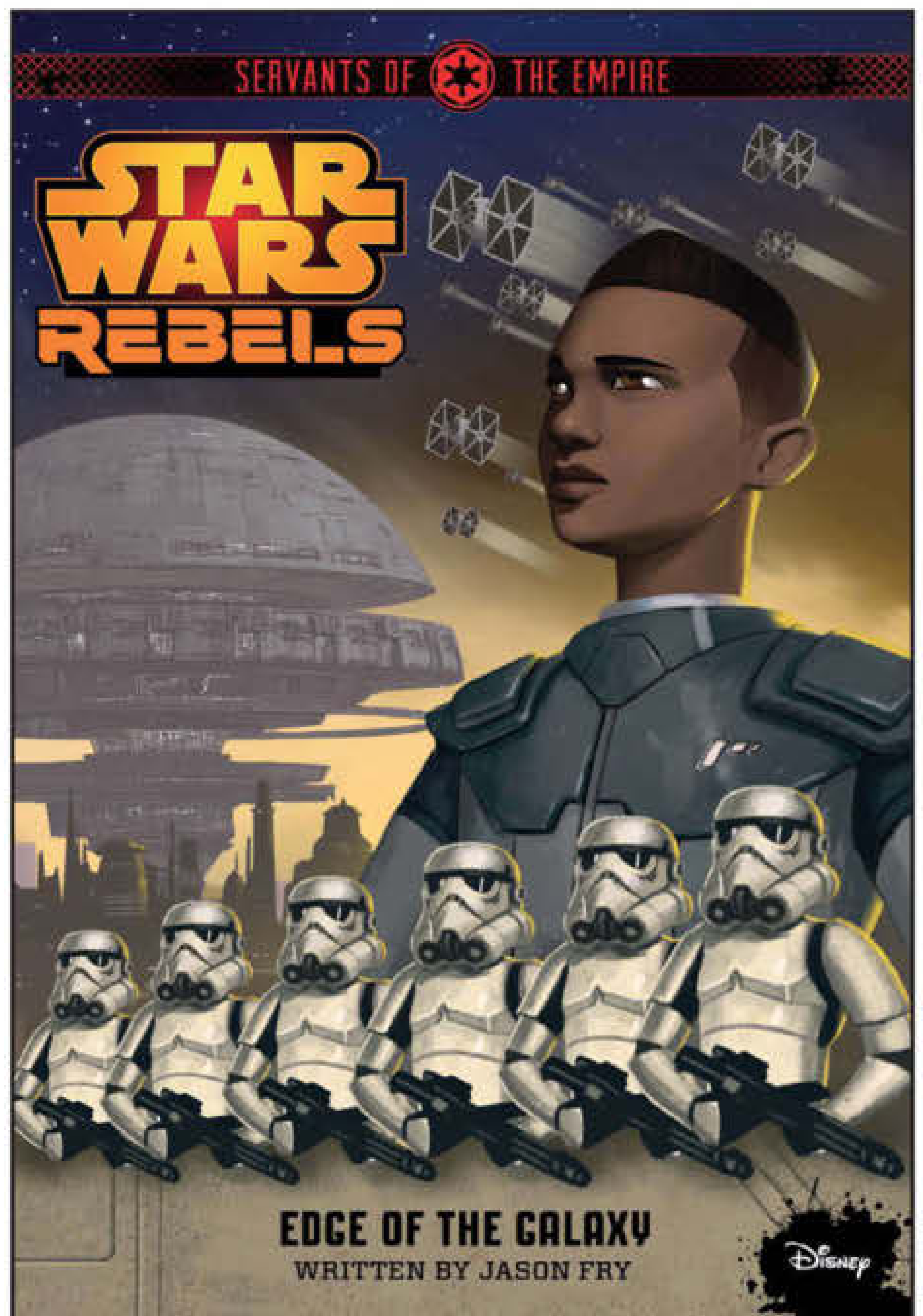
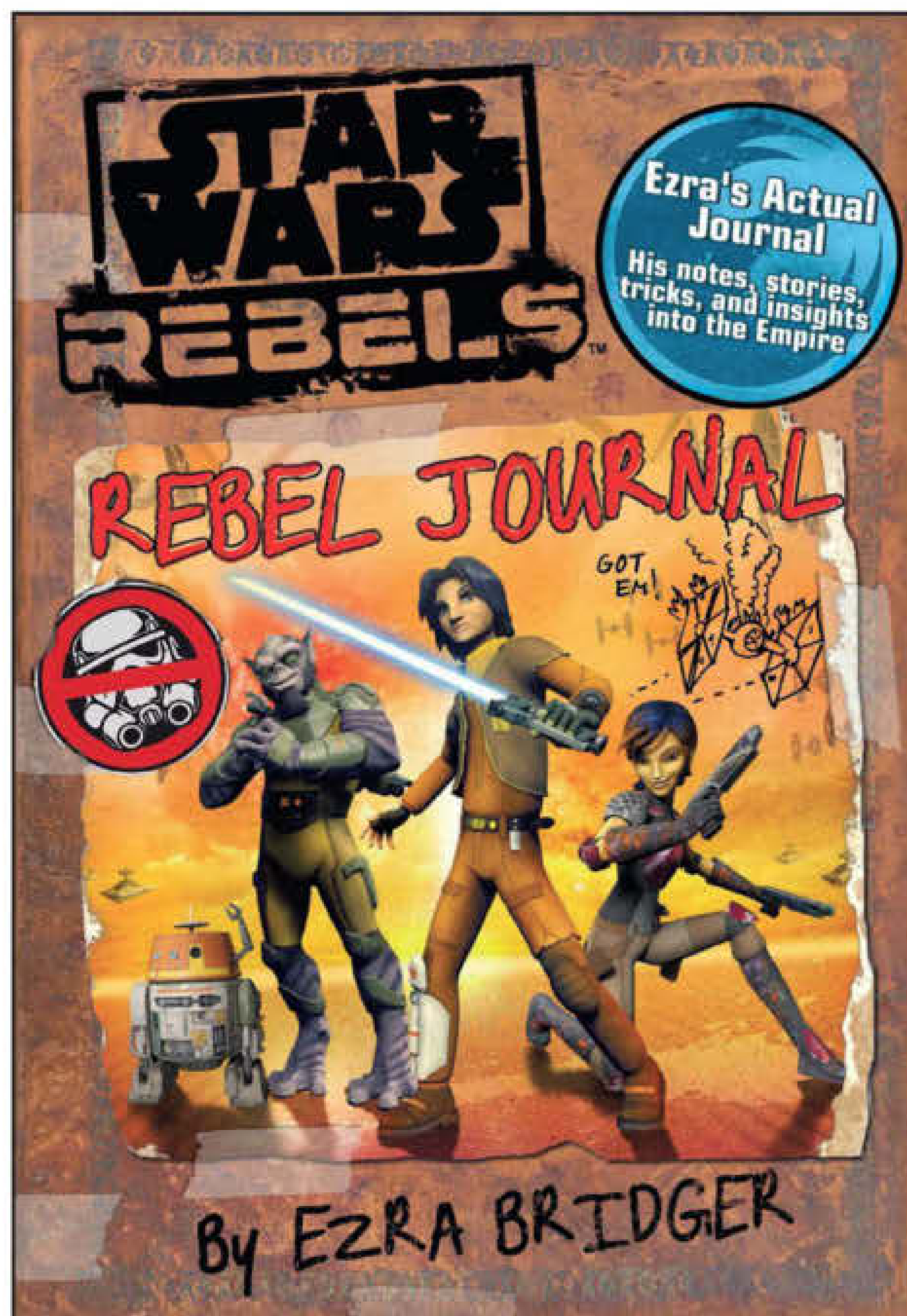
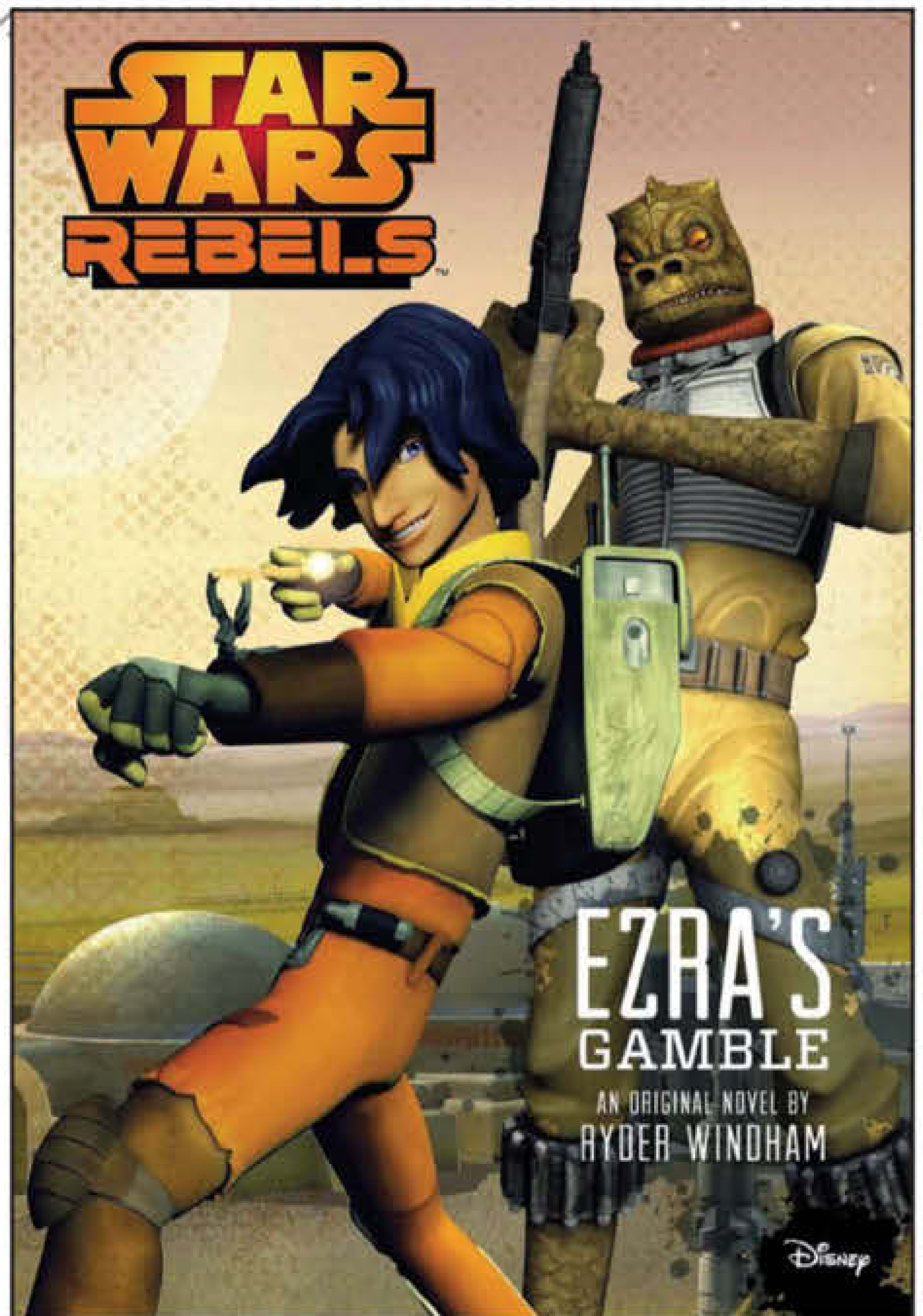
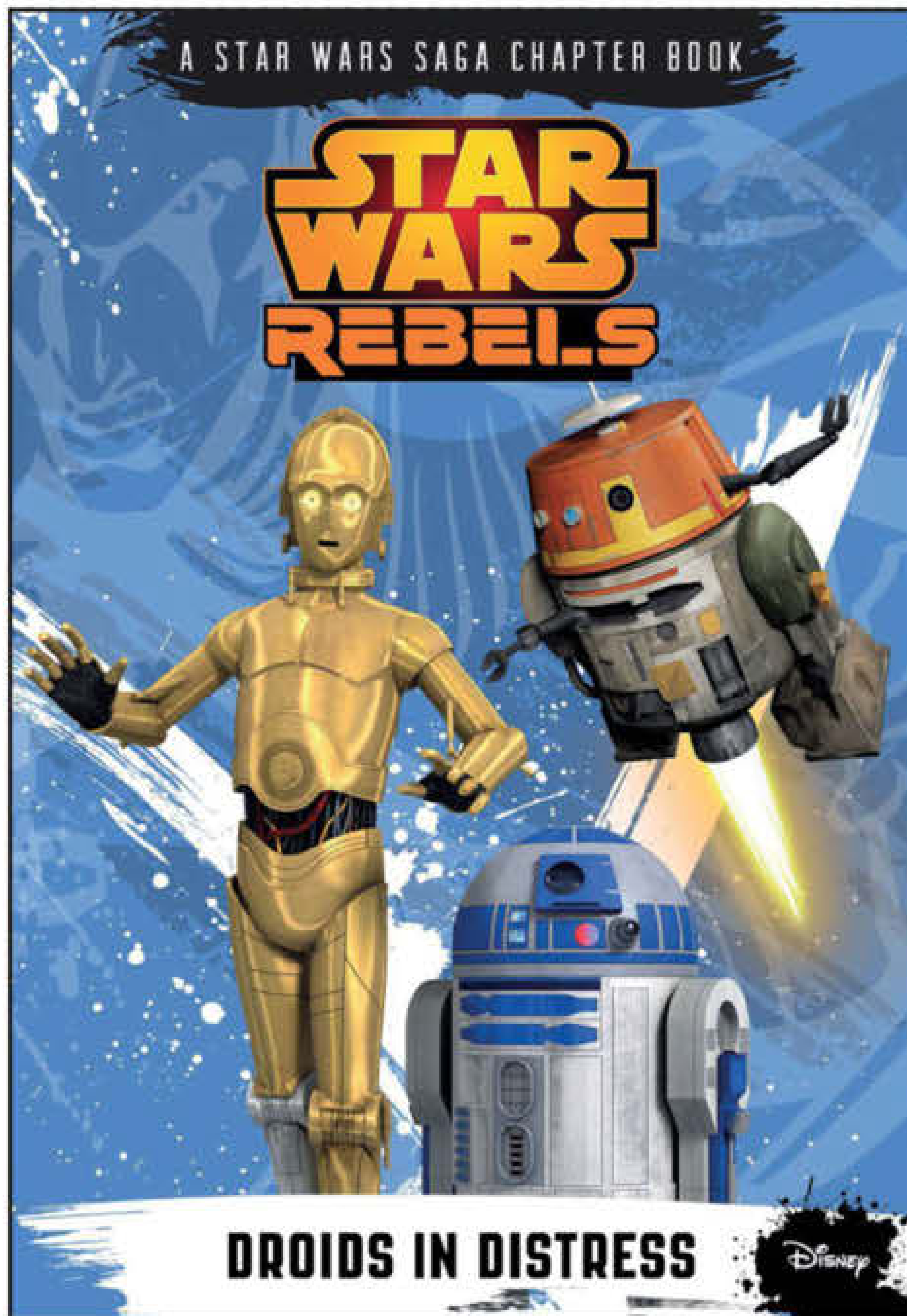
Star Wars Rebels: Droids in Distress (Disney Lucasfilm Press): This 128-page Disney Chapter Book is tailored for readers at a grade 1-3 level. Writer Michael Kogge adapts stories from the series including Imperial traps and daring rescues, starring the cranky droid Chopper and guest-starring R2-D2 and C-3PO.

Star Wars Rebels: Ezra's Gamble (Disney Lucasfilm Press): This all-new, original story for young adults is a prequel revealing Ezra Bridger's life on Lothal before he became a rebel. Written by Ryder Windham, the 160-page novel features a supporting role by the bounty hunter Bossk from *The Empire Strikes Back*.

Star Wars Rebels: Rebel Journal by Ezra Bridger (Studio Fun): This 96-page replica of Ezra's private journal provides a fresh perspective on the events of season 1 through Ezra's writings and sketches. A blank, 16-page section in the back allows would-be rebels to continue the adventure in their own words.

Star Wars Rebels: Servants of the Empire: Edge of the Galaxy (Disney Lucasfilm Press): Get a different perspective on the Empire in this young adult series by writer Jason Fry and illustrator Jean-Paul Balmet. Zare Leonis seems destined for the Imperial Academy on Lothal, but the disappearance of his sister leads him to uncover the Empire's destructive plans for his homeworld.





EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF A PAPERKIT!

CONSTRUCT THE FORMIDABLE BUST OF A SITH LORD WITH *STAR WARS: BUILD DARTH VADER*

When it comes to papercraft there are increasing degrees of complexity, and *Build Darth Vader* occupies an extreme far beyond simple origami foldables. Produced by becker&mayer—the company responsible for the similar *Build R2-D2* released earlier this year—the kit allows fans to make an ultra-realistic model of the black-armored Sith Lord, after putting in an estimated 12 hours in construction time.

If that sounds a lot, becker&mayer's Delia Greve promises that it's worth it. "The R2-D2 kit also took 12 hours to build, if not longer," she says. "I think it took me closer to 20 hours! Darth Vader is slightly less complicated than Artoo, but the elements of his helmet are deceptively intricate."

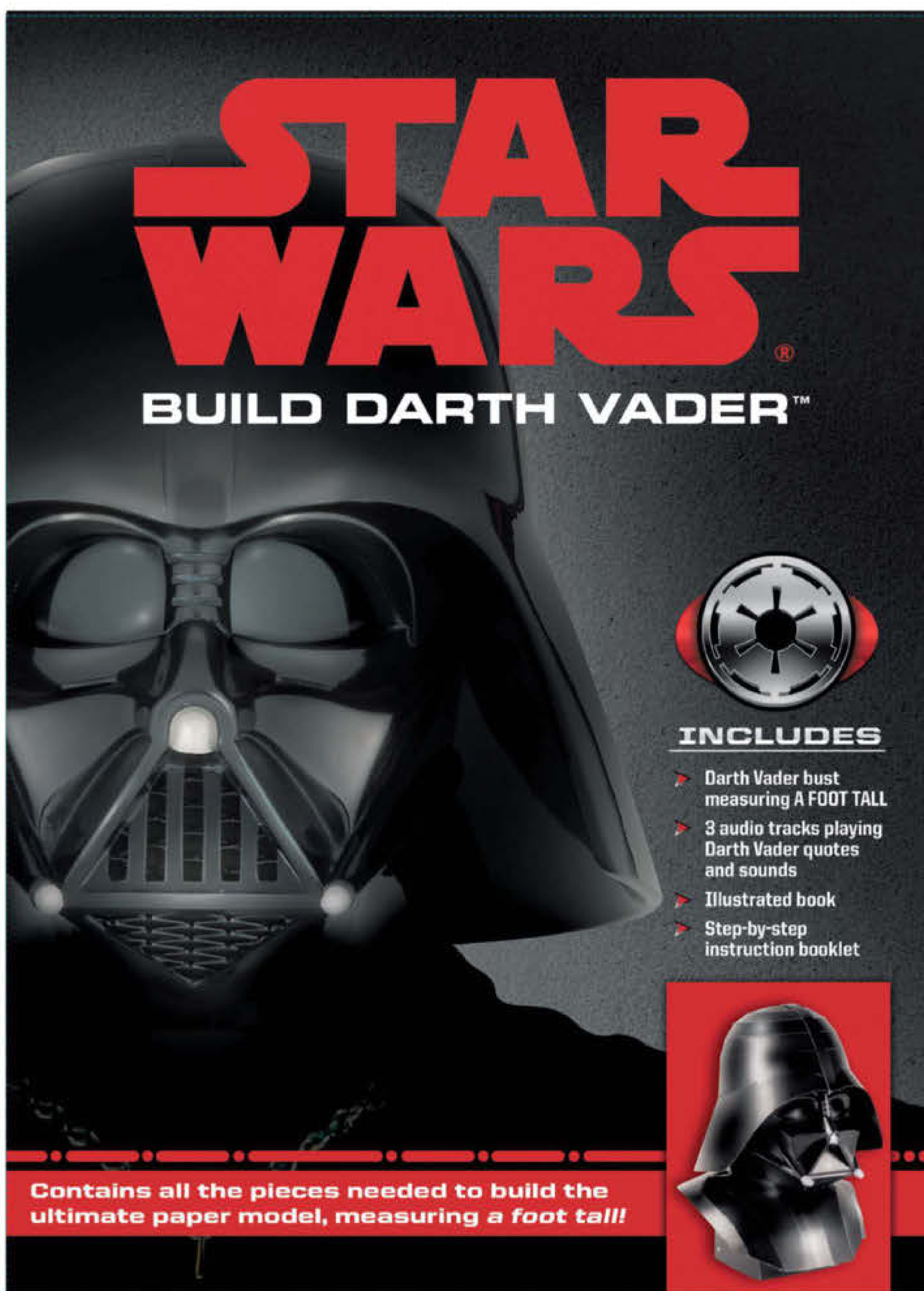
Claudio Dias, a paper engineer from Brazil, designed the paper models for both kits. The finished bust of Vader features a gloss varnish and comes with authentic sound effects: Vader's distinctive raspy breathing, the famous line "No, I am your father," and the intimidating threat "I find your lack of faith disturbing."

Build Darth Vader also comes with a 48-page book tracing the villain's life story, from his days as a slave boy on Tatooine through his heroic career as a Jedi warrior, ending with his final role as a master of the dark side and a terrifying cyborg. "The book is titled *Darth Vader: The Man, The Warrior, The Commander*," explains Greve. "It's about

the many roles Vader played in his life, and why he is the way he is."

For fans who prefer taking a hands-on approach to their fandom, *Build Darth Vader*

is the perfect holiday release. "A Darth Vader bust that can sit on your desk and talk to you? It was a no brainer for us," says Greve. "I have my model sitting on my desk!"



The image shows the box art for the 'Star Wars Build Darth Vader' kit. The background is black with a large, detailed image of Darth Vader's helmet. The 'STAR WARS' logo is in large red letters, and 'BUILD DARTH VADER' is in white below it. On the right side, there is a circular icon of the Imperial crest. Below this, the word 'INCLUDES' is written in white, followed by a list of features: 'Darth Vader bust measuring A FOOT TALL', '3 audio tracks playing Darth Vader quotes and sounds', 'Illustrated book', and 'Step-by-step instruction booklet'. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text 'Contains all the pieces needed to build the ultimate paper model, measuring a foot tall!'. In the bottom right corner, there is a small inset image showing the assembled bust of Darth Vader's head.

STAR WARS
BUILD DARTH VADER™

INCLUDES

- Darth Vader bust measuring A FOOT TALL
- 3 audio tracks playing Darth Vader quotes and sounds
- Illustrated book
- Step-by-step instruction booklet

Contains all the pieces needed to build the ultimate paper model, measuring a foot tall!

THE
VERY BEST
STAR WARS
COMICS!

A REBEL RISES

STAR WARS REBELS GETS THE PREQUEL TREATMENT WITH MARVEL'S NEW SERIES KANAN—THE LAST PADAWAN

Star Wars Rebels is the new, hit animated series that premiered on Disney XD this October to usher in a new era of Star Wars canon—the same canon in which 2015's eagerly anticipated Star Wars: Episode VII will take place. This opens up fresh opportunities for storytelling, and, given Marvel's roots, it wasn't long before the galaxy far, far away would return to comic book racks.

Kanan's comic book adventures begins in April of 2015, with the launch of *Star Wars: Kanan—The Last Padawan* as an ongoing series. Viewers of *Rebels* are already familiar with the core cast of characters who operate from the smuggling ship *Ghost*: streetwise orphan Ezra, demolitions expert Sabine, star pilot Hera, cranky droid Chopper, heavy bruiser Zeb, and Jedi Kanan Jarrus. It's the latter character who takes center stage in the new series. *Kanan—The Last Padawan* looks back at the years between the end of the Clone Wars and the era of *Rebels*, explaining how Kanan survived Order 66 and became the complicated character we see in the hit show.

"The tone is slightly darker than the television series because it covers an extremely dark time," explains writer Greg Weisman, who also worked as executive producer on the first season of *Star Wars Rebels*. "But from my point of view nothing has changed, and the tone



I'm always going for is that of Episodes IV and V. We'll see Kanan train to be a Jedi. And then we'll see him train specifically not to be a Jedi anymore. His relationship with Master Billaba is warm and wry." In addition to appearances from movie characters such as Depa Billaba, *Kanan—The Last Padawan* will explain why Kanan became "Kanan" (hint: it's not his real name) and how he learned to hide his Force powers in a galaxy that has been

trained to hate the memory of the Jedi Order.

Weisman is a longtime fan of the *Star Wars* saga, having seen the original film in theaters on the day it premiered in 1977. His creative roles with other popular entertainment franchises includes his development and producing responsibilities on the animated series *Gargoyles*, *The Spectacular Spider-Man*, and *Young Justice*. Comics aren't new to Weisman, who has written for *The Amazing Spider-Man*, *Gargoyles*, and *Captain Atom*, and bridging the two mediums is one of his goals with the new comics series.

"I think when you get this backstory [in *The Last Padawan*], you'll see—especially as the show continues into the recently announced second season—that it has a clear influence on his actions," he says.

Kanan—The Last Padawan is drawn by artist Pepe Larraz (*Inhuman*, *Deadpool vs. X-Force*), and the first issue features a cover illustration by Mark Brooks (*Ultimate X-Men*, *Avengers: The Initiative*). Fans of the animated series know that Kanan is a flawed hero, but the comics promise to dive deep into events and decisions that throw Kanan's motivations into a new light.

Says Weisman: "Mostly, it's just about taking a great existing character and trying my very best to do justice to it, with a fresh look and a fresh tale."



INCOMING

THE LATEST *STAR WARS* GEAR YOU'LL WANT TO ADD TO YOUR COLLECTION! WORDS: JAMES BURNS

LEGO

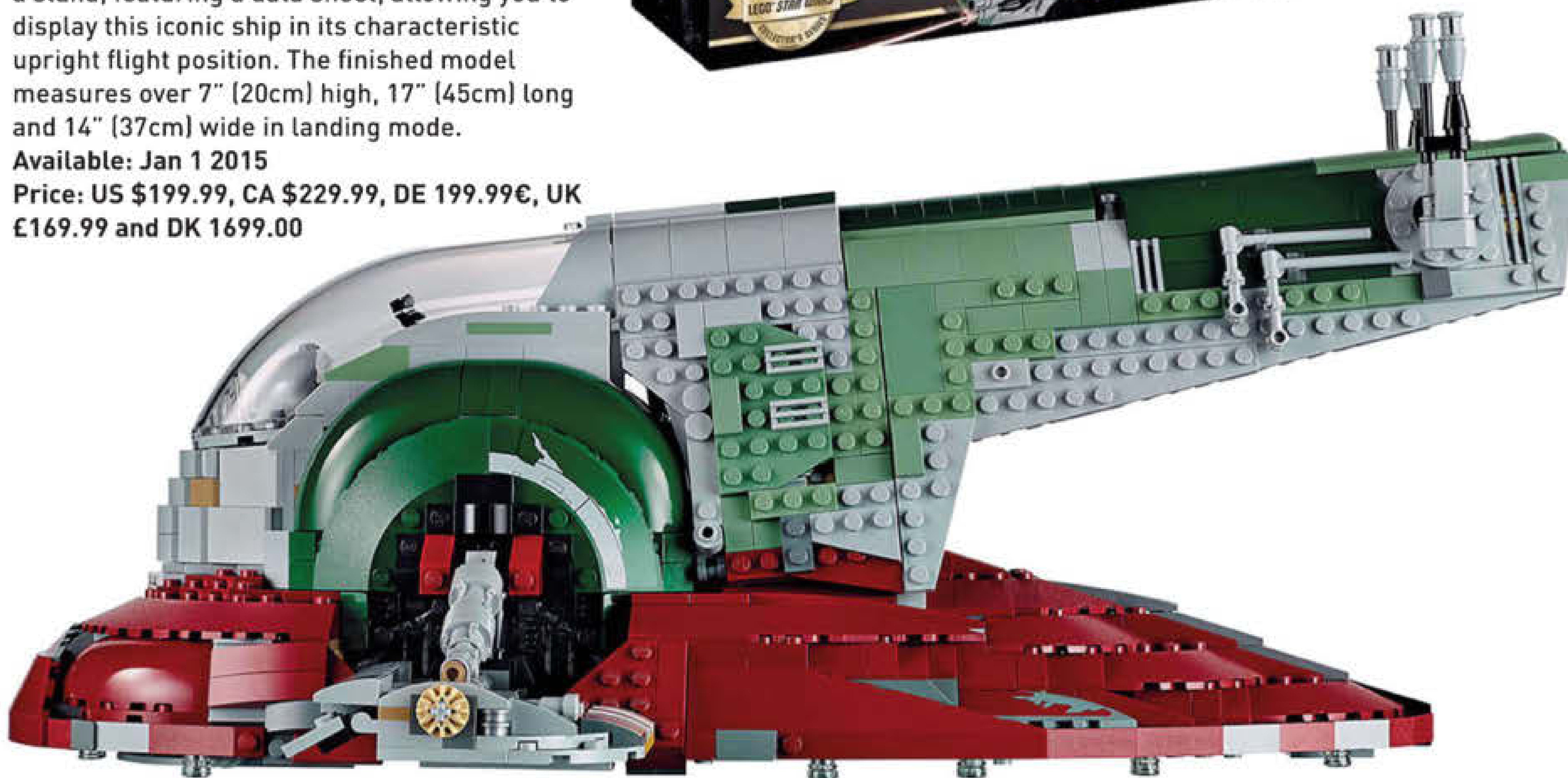
There have been seven LEGO versions of *Slave I* so far. It was first introduced in 2000 as a 166 piece set, and its last incarnation was as a LEGO BrickMaster mini exclusive in 2011 with just 76 pieces. Of these seven releases, three have been as mini models and four were larger sets including minifigures, but *Slave I* has never been released as a LEGO *Star Wars* Ultimate Collector Series (UCS) set—until now.

As expected from a UCS version, this is the largest release of the *Slave I* to date with 1,996 pieces, and it comes complete with five minifigures, including Han Solo in carbonite. Also in the box are new versions of Boba Fett, a Bespin guard and re-releases of Han Solo and a stormtrooper.

The ship features a rotating cockpit and wings for flight and landing mode, plus dual shooters and hidden blasters. It also comes complete with a stand, featuring a data sheet, allowing you to display this iconic ship in its characteristic upright flight position. The finished model measures over 7" (20cm) high, 17" (45cm) long and 14" (37cm) wide in landing mode.

Available: Jan 1 2015

Price: US \$199.99, CA \$229.99, DE 199.99€, UK £169.99 and DK 1699.00



THE FOWNDRY

Bread knife standing by... Chef's knife standing by... Lock S-foils in the chop position—the *Star Wars* X-wing knife block has landed.

Brighten up your kitchen with this amazing new X-wing knife block from The Fowndry. It is chrome finished and stands over 8" high. A marvel to look at, it's functional, too! The set comes complete with five high-quality, corrosion-resistant 3CR14, 430 stainless steel knives: 8" cook's knife, 8" bread knife, 8" carving knife, 4.75" utility knife, and 3.5" paring knife.

Available: Now

Price: £79.99



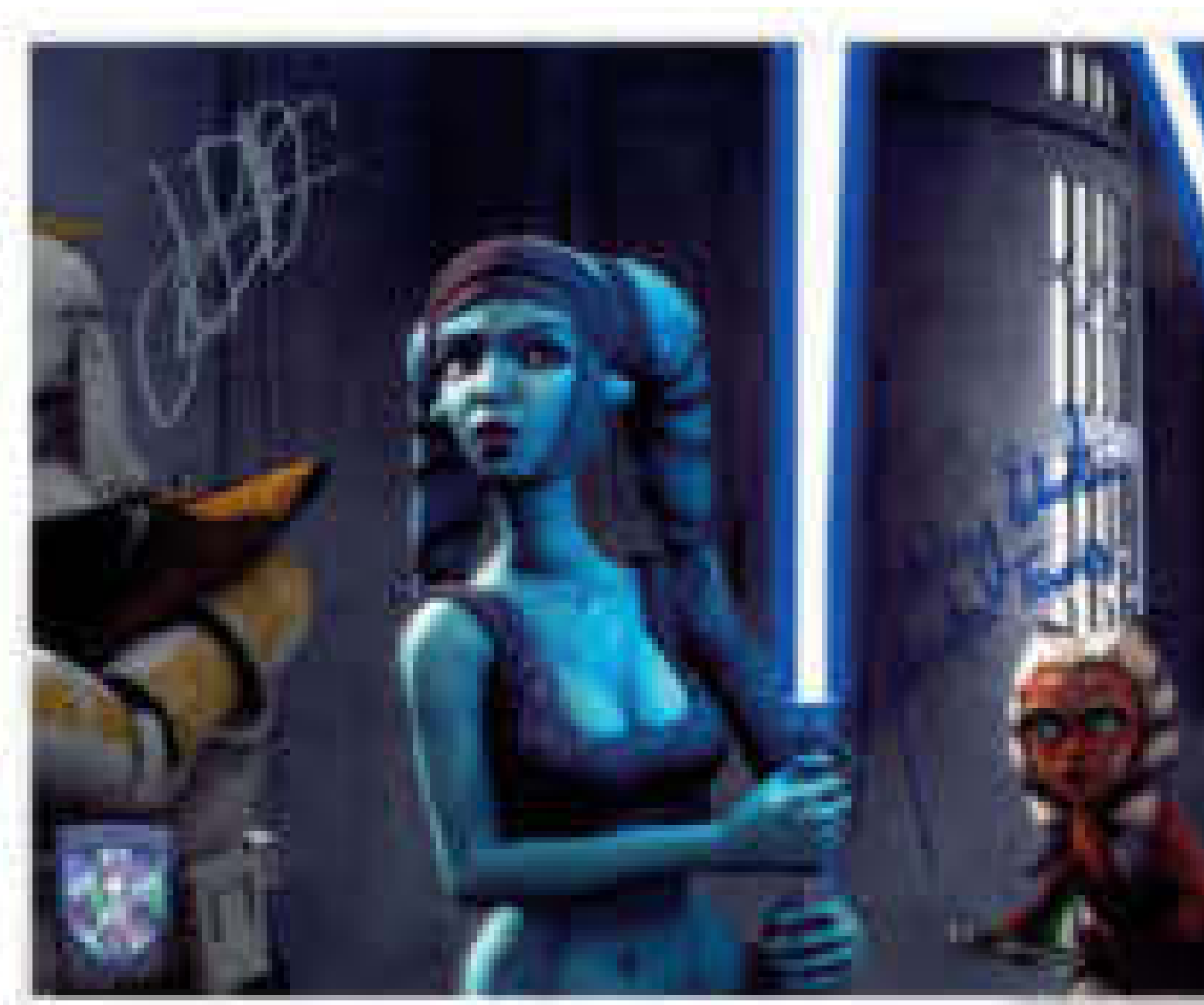
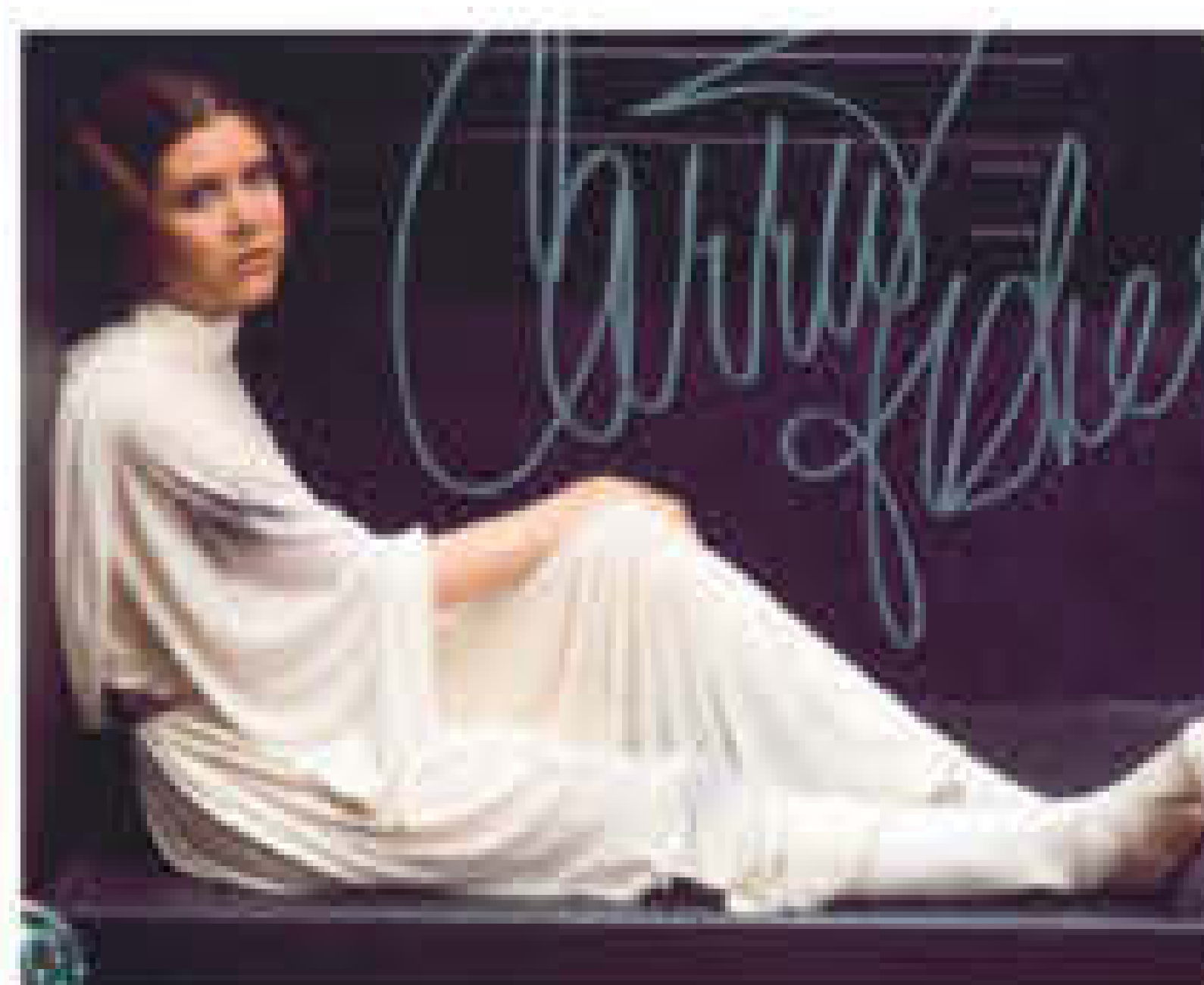
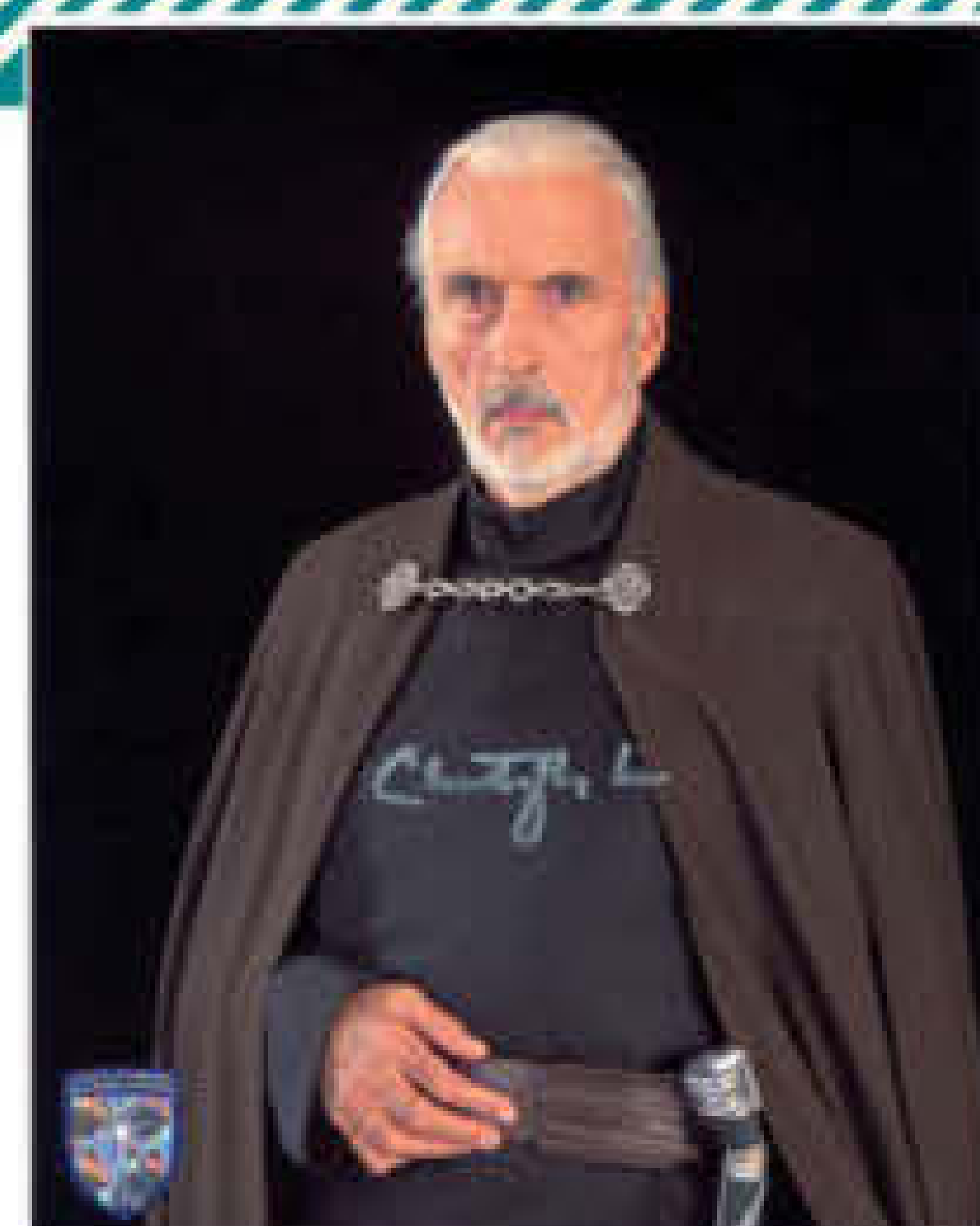
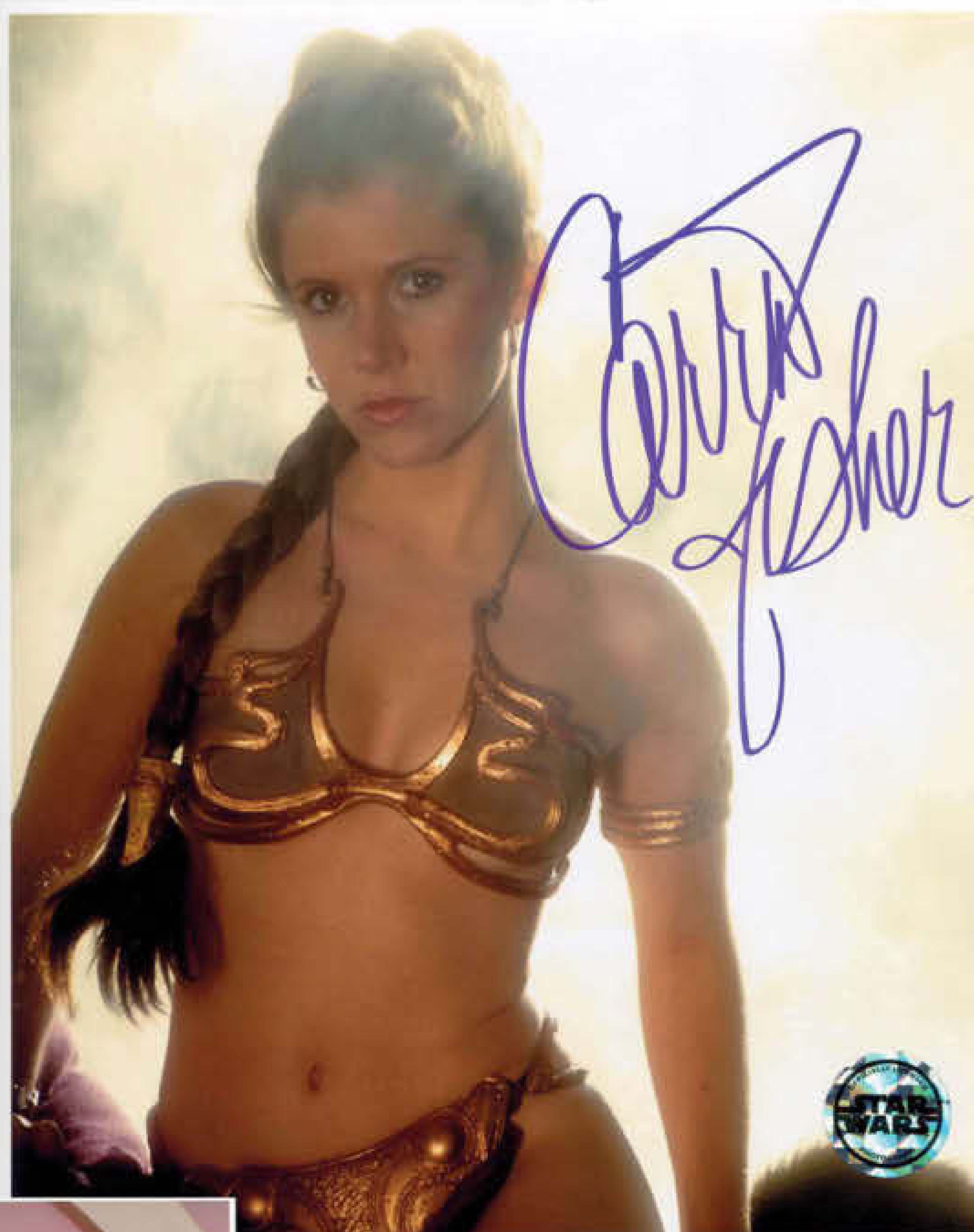
OFFICIAL PIX

Official Pix is the most trusted name in *Star Wars* autographs and photographs. This time, they are offering photographs signed by the legendary actor Sir Christopher Lee, known to *Star Wars* fans as Count Dooku in the prequel trilogy. Fans of the original trilogy will love a photograph of Princess Leia signed by the lady who portrays her, Carrie Fisher.

Actors from *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* have been signing, too! Choose from dual autographed photos of Ashley Eckstein and Matt Lanter (Ahsoka Tano and Anakin Skywalker) or Ashley Eckstein and Dee Bradley Baker (Ahsoka and the clones). A solo Matt Lanter signature is also available. All autographs are printed on high quality paper, are 8"x6" in size, and come with a signed Certificate of Authenticity.

Available: Now

Pricing: Carrie Fisher \$69.99; *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* Dual \$59.99; Sir Christopher Lee \$249.99; Matt Lanter \$29.99



SIDESHOW COLLECTIBLES



LUKE SKYWALKER: RED FIVE X-WING PILOT SIXTH SCALE FIGURE

This new sixth scale figure features a remarkable portrait of Mark Hamill as the rebel hero. Luke wears an authentically re-created flight suit and harness, removable helmet, visor and comlink.

Available: Q3 2015

Price: \$239.99



SCOUT TROOPER SIXTH SCALE FIGURE

Armed to provide rear-guard cover with their blaster and sniper rifles, scout troopers are trained as efficient survivalists, equipped with lightweight armor, utility belt, sidearm boot holster, and helmets with enhanced macrobinocular view plates for efficient target acquisition. Displayed with a forest terrain base, or piloting the sixth scale Imperial speeder bike (sold separately), these loyal scouts are ready to be assigned to their post.

Available: July 2015

Price: \$189.99

SPEEDER BIKE SIXTH SCALE FIGURE

The highly-detailed rapid-transport reconnaissance vehicle boasts a sleek design with a military grade repulsorlift engine, power cell, and simple blaster cannon for defense. Built for maneuverability, it features articulated foot pedals, engine flaps, and steering vanes to achieve the perfect action display, with or without pilot. Collectors can get a closer look at the details of the craft outlined on the Aratech 74-Z Specification Card, which can be exhibited alongside as a companion accessory. The speeder bike comes mounted on a museum-quality base to complete the hover effect.

Available: July 2015

Price: \$299.99

HER UNIVERSE



Earlier in the year, Ashley Eckstein told us that her company, Her Universe, is busy working on new *Star Wars Rebels* designs—and here are the first two! First up is a long sleeved T-shirt featuring the rebel insignia as drawn by Sabine in the show. The second design is a T-shirt featuring Sabine's Mandalorian helmet with a slogan inviting you to "Join the Rebellion."

Available: Now
Price: \$25 - \$30



VANS



This holiday season, Vans teams up with *Star Wars* to explore the dark side of the Force with new designs inspired by villains from the original trilogy. The Vans x *Star Wars* Holiday extends through classic footwear to men's apparel and accessories. Kids and toddlers

will also get to walk on the dark side with a selection of great designs!

Available: Now

Price: Adult-sized footwear from \$60 to \$70, Kid and toddler-sized footwear from \$37 to \$42, Men's apparel items from \$28 to \$40

HALLMARK

R2-D2 TREAT JAR

The R2-D2 treat jar is the perfect gift this holiday season: when you remove the lid you'll hear R2 "sing" one of three Christmas Carols, "Jingle Bells," "Deck the Halls," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas!"

Available: Now

Price: R2-D2 Treat Jar \$29.95 available exclusively from Hallmark Gold Crown Stores



JUMBO SIZED DARTH VADER

Hallmark's new line of sweet and unique *Star Wars* Itty Bittys are available now with six different characters to collect! R2-D2 and Darth Vader, \$6.95 each, and the *Star Wars* Collectors' set that features Luke Skywalker, C-3PO, a Jawa, and Obi-Wan Kenobi for \$29.95. To complement these is a new jumbo-sized 24" tall Darth Vader plush—which looks like a giant Itty Bitty—and comes complete with a belt to hold the 4" Itty Bittys around its waist!

Available: Dec 2014

Price: Jumbo sized Darth Vader Plush \$129.95 available exclusively from Hallmark Gold Crown Stores



HASBRO

At New York Comic Con, Hasbro has revealed some of the new *Star Wars* products coming in spring 2015. The super-articulated Black Series line continues through 2015. Here's what's coming...

3 3/4" BLACK SERIES

Han Solo with carbonite block, Leia in Boushh disguise, Mosep Binneed, a Jawa two-pack, Clone Commander Thorn, and C-3PO.



6" BLACK SERIES

Emperor Palpatine, IG-88, Luke Skywalker in stormtrooper disguise (created from a shorter mold than the regular stormtrooper!), Leia in Boushh disguise, Clone Commander Cody, and a clone captain.

Available: Spring 2015

Price: 6" \$19.99, 3 3/4" 9.99



SAGA LEGENDS

These 3¾" figures continue, each with five points of articulation. New figures include Luke Skywalker X-wing pilot, Lando Calrissian in skiff guard disguise, and Han Solo in Bespin outfit. Available: Spring 2015
Price: \$5.99



MISSION SERIES

These two-packs include Ezra Bridger in cadet disguise and Kanan Jarrus, Han Solo and Luke Skywalker in Hoth battle gear, Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia Organa, and R2-D2 and Yoda from Dagobah.

Available: Spring 2015
Price: Mission Series \$9.99



EZRA'S LIGHTSABER

Budding Padawans can practice their lightsaber skills with Ezra Bridger's light-up extending blade lightsaber blaster, as seen in *Star Wars Rebels*!

Available: Spring 2015
Price: Saga Legends \$5.99,
Mission Series \$9.99

HERO FIGURES

Two new 12" figures were revealed in New York: Darth Maul and Zeb Orrelios.

Available: Spring 2015
Price: \$14.99



BOUNTY HUNTERS



MEET THE STARS, SHOW THE EVIDENCE, WIN THE BOUNTY! *STAR WARS INSIDER*'S BOUNTY HUNTERS SECTION IS SPONSORED BY KOTOBUKIYA. EACH ISSUE'S WINNER WILL RECEIVE A FANTASTIC KOTOBUKIYA *STAR WARS* STATUE KIT! VISIT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/KOTOBUKIYA TO SEE MORE!

CRAFTSMANSHIP
KOTOBUKIYA

BOUNTY WINNER!



A big hug for Hera!



Jim and Vanessa Marshall having fun at Star Wars Weekends!

HAIL HERA!

This past May, I went to Disney's Hollywood Studios for *Star Wars Weekends*. It's always a great time to meet new people, get some great exclusive stuff, and meet *Star Wars* celebrities! This time I got to meet Vanessa Marshall (Hera Syndulla) from *Star Wars Rebels*. She is a great person and an amazing addition to the *Star Wars* family!—
Jim Ristway, Greensburg, Pennsylvania

BUCKETHEAD BASHERS UNITED!

Recently, I got the chance at Fan Expo Canada to meet Steve Blum, who voices Zeb in *Star Wars Rebels*. He was really cool. We talked about the new show and how much fun it is for us rebels to "bash bucketheads!"—Geoff "Krash" Krickhan, Great Lakes Base, Rebel Legion

Rebel teamup! Steve Blum and Geoff



REBEL FRIENDS!

I attended the Film and Comic Con in Sheffield, UK back in August. The reason I attended was to finally get the chance to meet two rebel pilots. Firstly, I met John Morton, who played Dak, Luke's gunner from *The Empire Strikes Back*. I also met Ian Liston, who played Janson, Wedge's gunner in the same movie. Both of them "Felt like new and wanted to take on the whole Empire themselves!" —Ben Leung, Cheltenham, UK



Ben meets Dak AKA actor John Morton



Ian Liston poses with Ben!



Jesper Lin full Imperial costume! 7 poses with the lovely Pam Rose!

I'M PALS WITH PAM

I got myself a nice picture with Pam Rose, who played Leesub Sirlin in *A New Hope*, at a convention in Randers, Denmark. It's me in the gunner uniform! She is such a nice person, and we sure had a laugh about my uniform! —Jesper Petersen, by email

CAN YOU GO ONE BETTER?

HAVE YOU MET EWAN MCGREGOR? MAYBE YOU'VE JOKED AROUND WITH JAMES EARL JONES OR EVEN CUDDLED UP TO PETER CUSHING!? SEND PHOTOS, AND STORIES, OF YOUR ENCOUNTERS WITH THE STARS OF *STAR WARS* TO: *BOUNTY HUNTERS*, *STAR WARS INSIDER* VIA THE CONTACT DETAILS ON PAGE 3, OR EMAIL US AT STARWARSINSIDER@TITANEMAIL.COM



VOL
87

BANTHA TRACKS



BY THE FANS.
FOR THE FANS.

THE FORCE, FESTIVE

Even though I'm writing this while enjoying the sunny California view out my office window, I know that months from now, when this *Bantha Tracks* hits the shelves, there will be December snow blanketing...somewhere else. Thankfully not here!

All the good wishes of the season from *Bantha Tracks* to you and all you hold dear. Enjoy these fan celebrations of the holiday fashioned by art, charity, and fun.

SNOWDA!

Mark Perry, an artist in Cambridgeshire, England, took advantage of a rare snowstorm. Although just over an inch of the white stuff fell, school classes were cancelled for the day.

"Snow is a great medium to work in, and so much fun!" says

Perry. "I think it looks kinda funny with the trooper sitting next to Yoda. He looks a bit awkward sitting next to the Jedi Master."

Perry took photos of the trooper and "Snowda" and sent them to the local TV station, where they were featured on the news.



Puerto Rico might be totally lacking snow, but it's definitely not lacking holiday spirit. Ineabelle Rodriguez created a *Star Wars*-themed tree complete with a glowing Yoda for the New Year.





THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

Star Wars fans over the world are among the best examples for giving where they live. A holiday issue of *Bantha Tracks* would not be complete without sharing reports of some of their many service appearances in communities.

GOOD DEEDS OF THE JEDI

Jedi costumers from the Rebel Legion, US (below), and the Jedi Assembly, Mexico (bottom), raising funds for kidney disease research, and for wheelchairs for the elderly.



FEEL THE FORCE

Becoming a tradition in the UK, "Feel the Force Day" brings the wonder of *Star Wars* to the disabled and those with learning disabilities. Pictured (left) as C-3PO is Simon Wilke, who is being "seen" by an attendee.

"You can't imagine what a privilege it is for me," writes Wilke. "To be responsible for another fan's understanding of Threepio is amazing." (Photos by Lee Hellwing)



The Empire... Strikes. In Buffalo, New York, Imperials, rebels, and Jedi worked together to raise funds for Autism Awareness. Together with the local FanForce chapter The North Ridge, the groups helped with a very successful event for the cause, raising charitable donations much higher than their bowling scores. (Thanks to Lawrence Tetewsky)



↑ Kurt Zimmerman's R2-D2 with hospital nurses.

"WHY I LOVE ARTOO-DETOO"

"Artoo-Detoo and I had the privilege of visiting the University of Michigan C. S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, with several members of the 501st and Rebel Legion *Star Wars* costuming groups. I always stay out in the hallway, and a hospital nurse goes in with Artoo. We went from room to room, visiting the young patients who could not leave their beds.

"We visited a young lady who was resting peacefully, her eyes closed. The nurse and her mom both told her she had a visitor, and Artoo let out a happy beep for hello. There was no response. Her mom said, 'Look, Artoo is waving at you,' and the young patient glanced over, unimpressed at the astromech's cheerfully flailing utility arms.

"It is difficult to know exactly what to do when you visit a patient's room, since going in as strangers we are unaware of the challenges they are facing. But Artoo-Detoo is not one to be ignored, so he carefully pushed on the young lady's bed. And pushed again. And again. Before long, he had the hospital bed rocking back and forth. He let out a cheerful series of beeps all the while.

"The young lady started to giggle. It was subdued at first, but as Artoo continued to demand her attention, she started laughing. Her mom stood nearby, shocked. Her open mouth was covered by her trembling hand, and she was weeping. The nurse who had escorted Artoo into the room was also in tears, and mumbled something like: 'Well... that was awesome....'

"Artoo stopped rocking and tried another utility arm wave. This time, the young patient responded by slowly raising her arm, fingers splayed in all directions, and weakly waving back. "And that, ladies and gentlemen, is why I love Artoo-Detoo." (Thanks to Kurt Zimmerman)



Artoo and Chewbacca cakes created by Jo-Ann Santos-Medina.

"We'd be honored if you could publish these images," writes Jo-Ann's husband Jason. "My wife makes fantastic cakes each year that are just as elaborate, which put many bakeries to shame, but these are the only *Star Wars* cakes she's done. They were damned tasty, too!"

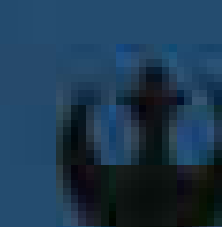




Members of the Dark Empire costuming group at a troop they coordinated at Hillside Orphanage in Pasadena, California.

"Each year, more and more costumers from the Dark Empire, the Mandalorian Mercs, the 501st Legion, the Rebel Legion, the Jedi Assembly, Saber Guild, and also a certain well-known astromech from the R2 Builders Club have joined us for a couple of fun hours with the kids," writes Dark Empire leader Joe Mignano. "The kids and faculty there love having us every year. Suffice to say, I can't tell who's happier—the kids or the staff there."

"I felt compelled to write you to express my appreciation and gratitude to the Midwest Garrison of the 501st Legion," writes Brian Beebe. "For the third year in a row they have graciously lent their time and energy to help raise money for the children of St. Jude's hospital here in Washington, Illinois. They tirelessly stand in the hot sun, without complaint, never asking for anything in return. The smiles the 501st generate from both the young and the young at heart are truly wonderful to witness!"



LOOKING FOR ST. NICK

That's not the name that artist José Sanchez gave his artwork ("Surveying the Situation"), but that's how we'll refer to it in honor of this holiday issue.



Okie Katsu carved Sly Moore into this fruit not for the holiday, but the festive colors beg that it be a part of this edition.

THE HOLIDAY CARD FILES

I went looking for my favorite holiday cards from last December, and was (only a little) surprised to find that they were still in my card gourd in my living room. The "card gourd" being the bottom part of a large, painted gourd I picked up in the Peruvian Amazon years ago. For some reason it's the right fit for cards and letters I want to keep handy.

I pulled out these favorites to share. They fit the creative, festive spirit of the season, and they help me say thank you to the friends who created and sent them.



WWW.MINTINBOX.NET

↑ Our friends at Mint-In-Box in France continued their series of *Star Wars* characters intent on collecting, with R2-D2: "Careful, Artoo. That Kowakian Monkey Lizard has his eyes on your action figure!" (Art by Benjamin Carre)

I always knew Bossk (my favorite *Star Wars* character) had a great voice. As I was signing these Lucasfilm holiday cards to send out from our events team, I would think how some must believe this is my idea. In spite of the great Bossk art, it was not my idea. But I love it! →



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Any original art, envelope art, comics, illustrations, news, stories, meeting information, or any materials voluntarily submitted become the property of *Bantha Tracks*. No compensation will be given for voluntary submissions, and there is no guarantee of publication. Submissions to *Bantha Tracks* will not be returned. Each submission must include the creator's name, age, contact details, date the work was created, and a statement that the work is original, and created by the person submitting it.

Send electronic files to:
banthatracks@starwars.com,
 or send your snail mail to:
Bantha Tracks,
 c/o Mary Franklin,
 P.O. Box 29901,
 San Francisco, CA
 94129

All the very best for the holiday season. I look forward to seeing you for a very celebratory—and momentous—2015.

Get in Tracks!
 Mary Franklin, Editor,
Bantha Tracks



↑ Ho! Ho! Ho! Those biker scouts better hurry up. Card thanks to the 501st Legion. (Art by John Sloboda)



↑ Good wishes from Paul Bragard. (Art by Julien Dumont)



↑ The French fans outdid themselves for the holidays in 2013, with multiple cards popping up in the card gourd (this one, the clone with the holo-Sidious, and the Mint-In-Box R2). These clones mounting a festive holiday defense were from the French Garrison of the 501st Legion.



↑ My good friends at ReedPop are also the folks who work with us on the *Star Wars Celebrations*. Study this card carefully. You might spot some of these people in Anaheim in April! (www.starwarscelebration.com)



↑ Grauman's Chinese Theater, circa the late 1940s, by Ralph McQuarrie. This card would mean the world to me just for that, but that fact that Joan McQuarrie (Ralph's wife) sent it makes it even more special.

RED FIVE



ARTIST SPENCER BRINKERHOFF III'S FIVE FUNNIEST STAR WARS CHARACTERS

Comedy is a funny thing. I don't really think of *Star Wars* as a comedy, but without the humor, it just wouldn't be the same. We need humor in the story to help balance out the intensity of our heroes' struggles. The comedy appears in all shapes and sizes. Some comedic characters are easily identified by their physical appearance, while other times the comedy comes from a prop, a situation, or from the witty banter. Whatever it may be, we count on that comic relief to ease the tension and help us to be more connected to these characters and their story. So here are five of my favorite comedic *Star Wars* characters. Thanks for the laughs, *Star Wars*!

1 TAG AND BINK

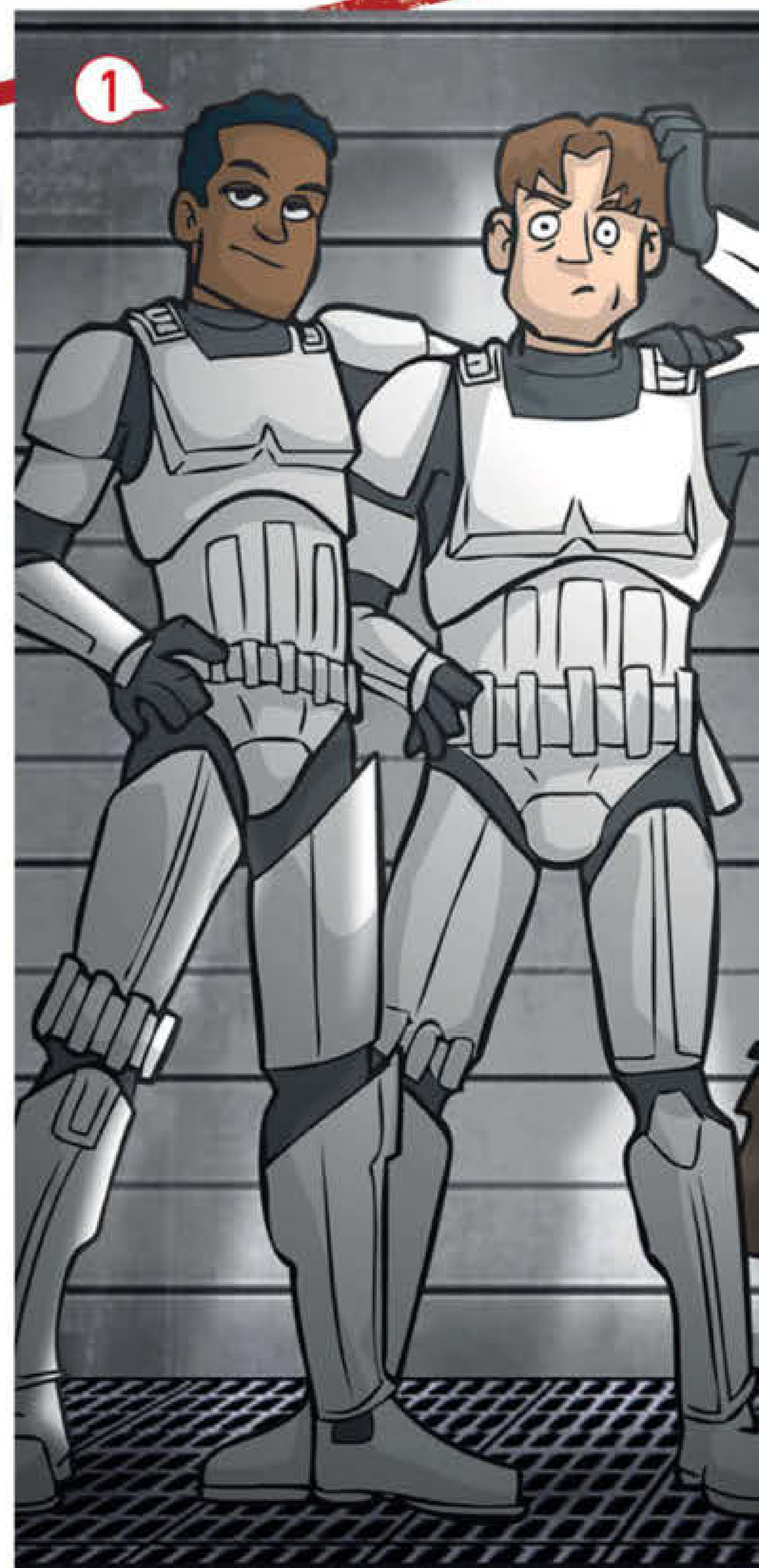
Tag Greenley and Bink Otauna were just a couple of [non-canonical] background characters whose meddling antics end up accidentally influencing the whole *Star Wars* story. Originally created as a two-part story for Dark Horse Comics, writer Kevin Rubio worked to fill in some of the gaps from the films. Tag and Bink were rebel troopers aboard the *Tantive IV* when Darth Vader attacked the ship. They bravely ran away from the ensuing battle and found themselves captured by stormtroopers. Due to the poor visibility of the stormtroopers' helmets, Tag and Bink were able to overpower their captors and gain their freedom by disguising themselves in the trooper armor. They ended up on the Death Star, where they stole a couple of TIE fighters to escape and return to the rebels on Alderaan. Just as they were leaving, the whole planet was destroyed and the *Millennium Falcon* dropped out of hyperspace. So you remember the TIE fighter that Han saw, and they all commented that it was a short-range fighter? Yeah, that was Tag. He accidentally led our heroes right to the Death Star to be captured. And just who the troopers that Obi-Wan confused so he could disable the tractor beam, or the two pilots that Vader chose as wingmen? Yup. That was Tag and Bink.

2 THE EWOKS

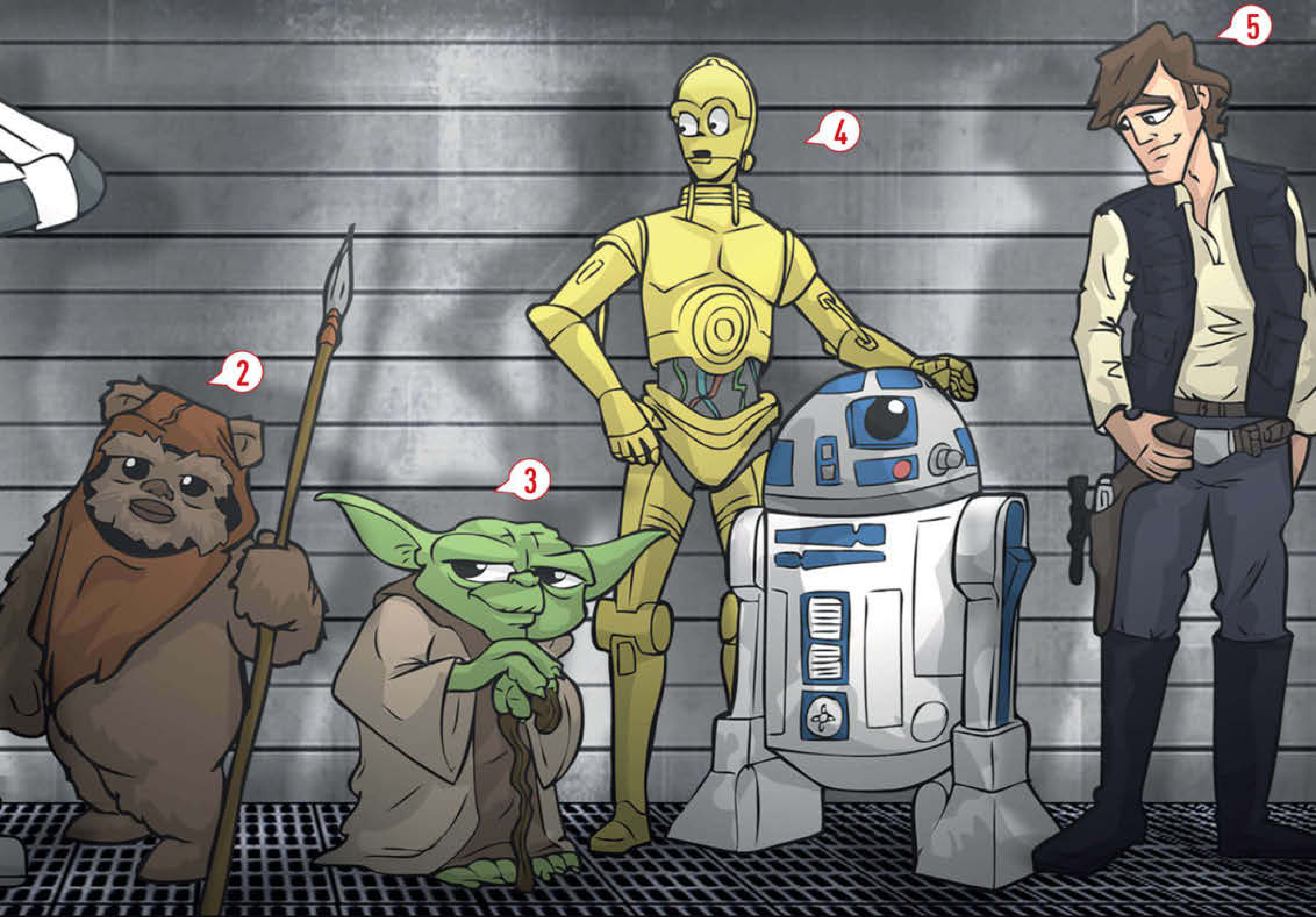
So let's recap: A small band of rebels set out to infiltrate the forest moon of Endor and disable the shield generator. If that shield could not be disabled, the whole attack on the Death Star would have to be aborted—that's intense! The entire fleet is counting on them, and they get themselves captured by a tribe of carnivorous teddy bears—that's funny! These heroes of the Rebel Alliance and destroyers of the first Death Star find themselves hogtied to a spit and about to be served up barbecue-style in honor of the Ewoks' new golden god. Through some smooth talking, and a bit of Jedi magic, the Ewoks are recruited to the rebels' cause. These wobbly little puppy-faced warriors had the audience cheering! They distracted the biker scouts by stealing their speeders and released piles of logs that toppled the scout walkers. They added levity to an intense situation and helped the rebels accomplish their mission. And let's not forget that these fierce warriors were about to eat our heroes!

3 YODA

I feel that the short stature of the Ewoks added to their comedic presence. So it seems to me that the next logical step in our list of comedic characters would be to



discuss the pint-sized Jedi Master. As I write this, I can hear Yoda say, "Size matters not. Look at me. Judge me by my size, do you? Hmm?" Like many older readers, I first met the character of Yoda through *The Empire Strikes Back* when Luke crash-landed in the Dagobah swamp. The swamp was teeming with life and Luke was determined to continue his training by learning from the great warrior Yoda. But Yoda was not what Luke expected. Unthreatened by the sudden appearance of this strange swamp dweller, he states that he is, "Looking for someone." This opening statement from Yoda says so much, "Looking? Found someone you have I would say! Hmm." There's depth in what he says and comedy in how he says it. He disarms Luke with his light tone and witty comeback. He then teaches a lesson that when you don't know what you're looking for, it might be right in front of you. And don't forget, "When 900 years old, you reach... Look as good, you will not."



4 C-3PO & R2-D2

From the very beginning, Threepio and Artoo's clashing personalities created the perfect comedy duo. They were patterned after the bickering sidekicks from the film *The Hidden Fortress* and in addition to adding comic relief, they actually help to keep the main plot of the films moving along. Threepio had it all: he's tall and shiny, and has been trained in etiquette and protocol. He is reasonable and serious, and yet he finds himself paired with this silly little astromech droid. Threepio is fluent in over six million forms of communication, while Artoo talks in whistles. Threepio is a tuxedo to Artoo's coveralls. This relationship is perfectly summed up while the droids are escaping the *Tantive IV*. Artoo has the plans from Princess Leia and is climbing into the escape pod. Artoo whistles at Threepio and his response is, "Don't you call me a mindless philosopher, you overweight glob of grease!" He's

always ready to talk back to his sidekick, but it would be against his programming to ever speak to anyone else with such contempt. I love the scene when Threepio is asked if he speaks Bocce. He replies, "Of course I can, sir. It's like a second language to me..." Owen Lars cuts him off, tells him to "Shut up" and turns away from him. Almost under his breath, C-3PO, ever the humble servant complies with the statement, "Shutting up, sir."

5 HAN SOLO

This scoundrel has some of the best lines in the galaxy. He often finds himself in the middle of the action and because he is an unwilling hero, he often comments about the oddity of the situation. Let's review. We first meet Han in the Cantina boasting about his skills as a pilot. After deftly taking out Greedo, he flips a coin to the bartender and says, "Sorry about the mess." He's cool and

confident, he's nearly a bad guy, and he's flat out funny!

The humor is the type of line that I wished that I could come up with. When Leia states that she'd "Just as soon kiss a Wookiee," Han replies, "I can arrange that. You could use a good kiss!" He's arrogant and yet he warns Luke not to get cocky. When the two of them are reunited in Jabba's palace, Luke informs Han that they're doing about the same as always. Han's perfect comedic reply is, "That bad, huh?" 🤖

MORE TO SAY

See more of Spencer's art at www.studiosb3.com

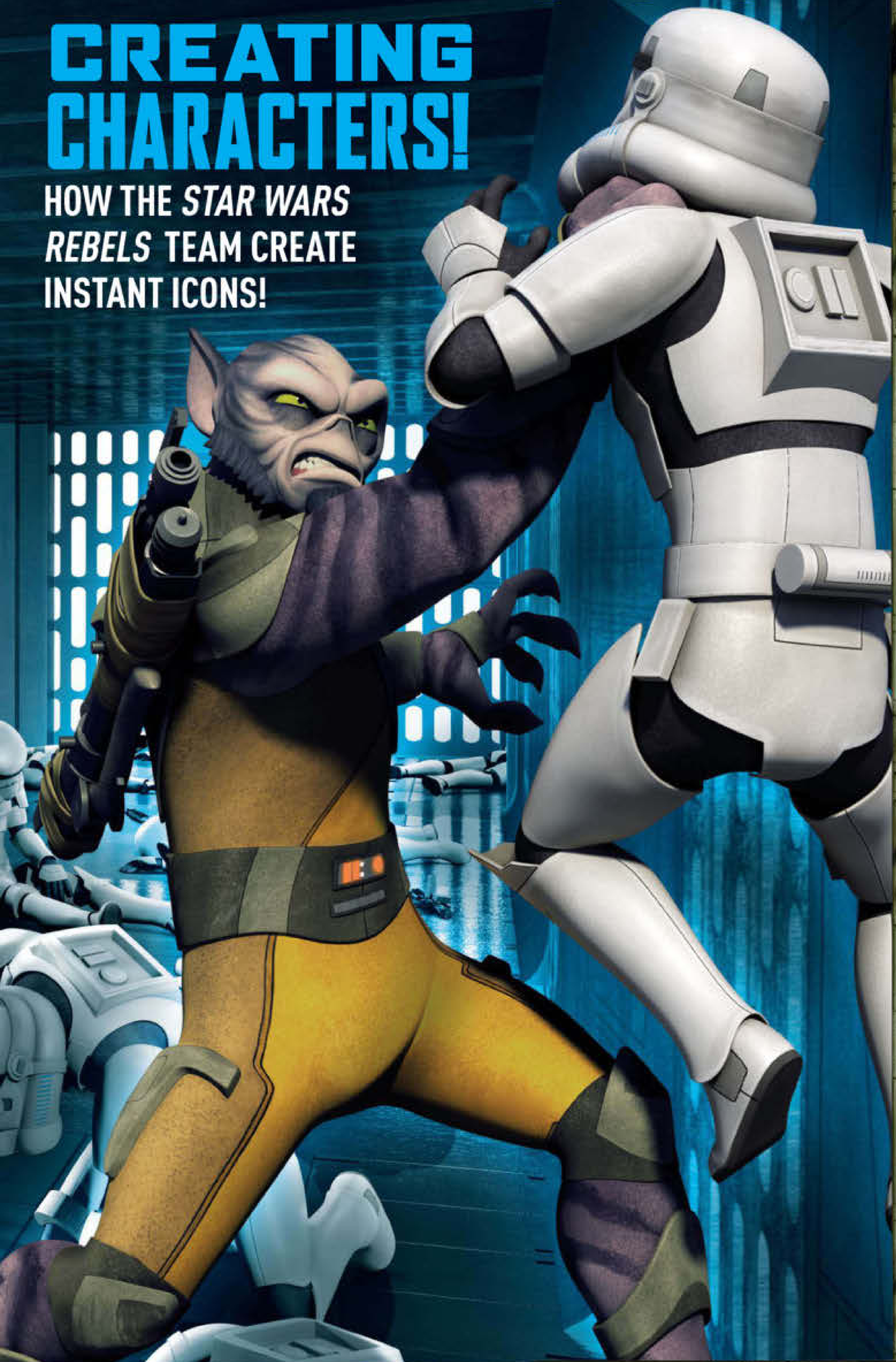
HAVE YOU?



THE SAGA CONTINUES.... **NEXT ISSUE**

CREATING CHARACTERS!

HOW THE *STAR WARS*
REBELS TEAM CREATE
INSTANT ICONS!



LUKE SKYWALKER

returns in an amazing new
novel, *Heir to the Jedi*!
Author Kevin Hearne offers
a taste as to what's to come!



LANDO CALRISSIAN

is the best dressed man
in Cloud City. Discover
the secrets behind his
and other amazing costumes!



KEVIN KINER

The maestro behind the
music of *Star Wars Rebels*
speaks out!

**STAR
WARS**

Subscribe today at www.titanmagazines.com U.S. 866-205-0034 U.K. 0844 322 1280
U.S. NEWSSTANDS: January 20 U.K. NEWSAGENTS: January 29

EVIL TAKES HOLD... IN THE HIT FOX TV SERIES

SLEEPY HOLLOW

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE



Tom Mison and Nicole Beharie talk exclusively about their characters Ichabod and Abbie!

John Noble tells all about his character's shocking revelation at the end of season one!

Demonology guides to the demons and monsters faced by Ichabod, Abbie and co.!



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.TITANMAGAZINES.COM



CANTINA SCENE SKATEBOARD
10" X 31"

AVAILABLE NOW ONLINE AND
AT SKATESHOPS WORLDWIDE

STAR WARS

COLLECTION

MANUFACTURED BY *SANTA CRUZ*

SEE THE FULL LINE AT
SANTACRUZSKATEBOARDS.COM/STARWARS

starwars.com



RANCOR SCENE SKATEBOARD
9.3" X 31.6"

